Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-90-170
Friday
31 August 1990

Daily Report
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FBIS-SOV-90-170 *31 August 1990*

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Shevardnadze Outlines Goals of Asian Tour

Seeking 'Peace Initiative'

OW3108035390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0249 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Tokyo, Aug. 31 KYODO—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has said Moscow is seeking a peace initiative in Asia and wants to start confidence-building talks with Tokyo on political and military matters, a Japanese newspaper reported Friday.

The mass circulation ASAHI SHIMBUN, carried an exclusive front page interview with Shevardnadze, who is to visit Japan for four days starting Tuesday.

Shevardnadze said he is concerned about the situation in the Asia-Pacific region where he said the peace process is obviously slower than Europe and Soviet-U.S. relations. Shevardnadze proposed as a first step, a mechanism for negotiation on wide-ranging topics be created to solve specific problems jointly, the ASAHI said.

The daily quoted the minister as saying that within the region, each area has its own unique set of circumstances which must be respected if experience accumulated in other regions is to be utilized there.

Shevardnadze said it would be beneficial to launch a political and military dialogue with Japan, adding he intends to include confidence-building measures in the bilateral talks, especially in the military sphere.

"I don't think the Japanese people welcome military cost increases with applause," the ASAHI quoted Shevardnadze as saying. "The rise in military expenditure (in Japan) means Japan does not trust the Soviet Union and serious discussion is needed at the expert level" on the question between the two countries.

Although Shevardnadze said the Soviet Union did not think Japan should scrap its military pact with the United States, he said several points in the pact would have to be reviewed if "we are to discuss Asia-Pacific securities in the same context." Shevardnadze urged Japan to rethink the level of military power necessary to attain security in the region.

"If there are no intentions of invasion, we can agree on security arrangements among the Soviet Union, Japan, or South Korea and can define the military ceiling for those countries."

Shevardnadze described Japan as a major Asia-Pacific nation of global importance which should be included in regional peace initiative talks, the ASAHI said.

Of his upcoming Japan trip, the Soviet minister said there can be no doubt the issue of inking a peace treaty will draw considerable attention and that work being undertaken on a treaty since 1988 by a special panel will be analyzed with a view to determining new initiatives. "All the Japanese proposals made during the work are within the scope of our discussions," Shevardnadze said.

He said the bilateral dialogue would serve the common purpose of world stability only if both sides erase mutual suspicion and work for each other, the ASAHI reported.

Commenting on the current Gulf crisis, Shevardnadze said Soviet officials are in daily contact with Iraqi representatives, adding he has not ruled out the option of visiting the Gulf himself.

While approving the option of introducing United Nations forces in the conflict for peacekeeping purposes, he stressed the solution should be basically realized by the Arab community.

Turning to ties with the U.S., Shevardnadze predicted another summit meeting between Presidents Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush may take place in Paris at the summit session of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), to be followed by a trip to Moscow by Bush.

Previews PRC, DPRK Talks

LD3108103790 Moscow TASS in English 1013 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 31 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, who left on an Asian Pacific tour today, said that during his visit to China he would discuss bilateral relations, including forthcoming talks on cuts in weapons and armed forces along the Soviet-Chinese border.

In an interview with TASS at the airport before his departure, he singled out a Cambodian settlement and the Gulf crisis among the international subjects to be raised at the talks in China, the first leg of his tour.

He said that the Soviet Union and China "bear certain responsibility as permanent members of the Security Council," which has voted for a resolution to settle the crisis.

The talks in North Korea, Shevardnadze's next stop, "will be mostly indepth and specific explorations of ways to lower military confrontation on the Korean peninsula "and the Asian Pacific region in general, as well as of bilateral relations," he said. [quotation marks as received]

The foreign minister described his agenda in Japan as "most wide-ranging."

He said relations between the Soviet Union and that country had been developing dynamically overall, as exemplified by bilateral trade's reaching six billion dollars.

But the focus during the visit to Japan would be on "problems regarding the Asian Pacific region, the resolution of issues that have piled up for decades," Shevardnadze said.

"The time has come for very serious dialogue, for resolving issues of military confrontation," he said.

Rogachev Calls Asian Tour 'Extremely Important'

LD3108101590 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0841 GMT 31 Uag 90

[By TASS special correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow, 31 Aug (TASS)—The tour of a number of countries in the Asian and Pacific region by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze which begins today, will be extremely important and extremely full, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev told your TASS correspondent at the airport before the Soviet delegation's departure from Moscow. In the course of the tour the Soviet delegation led by Eduard Shevardnadze will visit China, the DPRK, and Japan. The minister will also participate in the international conference "The Asian-Pacific Region: Dialogue, Peace, Cooperation," which will be held in Vladivostok from 4-7 September.

The visit to China, Igor Rogachev said, is being made at a very important time in international politics, when tension in the Persian Gulf has reached its limit. Whereas a regular exchange of views exists between us and the United States, we do not have one with China, so the consultations with China are very important.

According to Igor Rogachev, the Cambodian problem will also be examined with the Chinese side. This is very important since a conference of the five members of the UN Security Council has just ended with the adoption of a common decision on Cambodia.

The talks in Pyongyang will concentrate, Igor Rogachev said, on the situation on the Korean peninsula. In connection with this, he added that the Soviet Union is faithful to the letter and spirit of the treaty on friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance between the DPRK and the USSR. The Soviet side intends to reaffirm this to the Korean friends in the course of the visit.

Eduard Shevardnadze's official visit to Japan, the deputy minister continued, is the "penultimate stage" of the preparations for the Soviet-Japanese summit. The premier of Japan should arrive in Moscow as soon as possible. A very great deal of work lies ahead with the conclusion of a peace treaty, a key aspect of which is the so-called "Northern Territories." At present, the positions of the sides are different, Igor Rogachev added, but talks must be conducted, and we intend to conduct them.

In conclusion, Igor Rogachev spoke about the participation of the USSR foreign minister in the international conference "The Asian and Pacific Region; Dialogue, Peace, Cooperation." He said, "In Vladivostok, Eduard Shevardnadze will make a speech amounting to a report on the USSR's activities to carry out the initiatives put forward by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk."

Media Preview Shevardnadze's Far East Tour

IZVESTIYA Lists Itinerary

PM3008174790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by diplomatic correspondent M. Yusin: "Harbin-Pyongyang-Vladivostok-Tokyo Is the Itinerary of the Soviet Foreign Minister's Far Eastern Tour"]

[Text] On the morning of 31 August, USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze flies to the Far East, where in the course of eight days he will visit three countries and also deliver an address to the "Asian-Pacific Region: Dialogue, Peace, and Cooperation" conference in Vladivostok.

Harbin

The first stage will be the Chinese city of Harbin. The idea of making a stop in China arose a few weeks ago—after the preliminary program for the Far East trip had already been drawn up. The need to visit this country was prompted primarily by the fact that recently our foreign policy has been oriented mainly toward Europe and the United States, while China and indeed Asia as a whole have taken somewhat a back seat. The Beijing leaders are following the Soviet-American rapprochement with some anxiety. It is difficult to predict what their reaction will be. One thing is obvious, however: Neither the USSR nor the United States should allow China to feel slighted. This could result in its opposing Moscow and Washington in the future and adopting extreme stances on a number of issues.

One aim of the visit is to end the long pause in contacts between the Soviet and Chinese foreign ministers. The Chinese have exhibited manifest interest in this: They responded enthusiastically to the Soviet proposal for a meeting.

During the talks Shevardnadze will inform his Chinese colleague, Qian Qichen, about the state of affairs on the German question. It is significant that this will take place just prior to the Moscow meeting of foreign ministers of the Six on 12 September, at which the final accords on the German question are to be signed. In the opinion of Soviet diplomats, China—an active participant in the anti-Hitler coalition—should not be left out of the process of the German settlement, particularly as it, as a great power, cannot remain indifferent to European affairs. In recent months Beijing has been showing great interest in everything happening in Europe.

The decision to hold Soviet-Chinese consultations in Harbin was made even before the crisis broke out in the Persian Gulf. But in the light of that crisis the Shevardnadze visit could not be more opportune. China plays an important role in the development of the world community's overall strategy regarding Iraqi aggression. The recently demonstrated unity of the five permanent members of the Security Council creates a good groundwork

for the future. The mutual understanding between the USSR and China on this question must be consolidated. According to Soviet Foreign Ministry staffers, the Persian Gulf will be one of the central topics at the talks in Harbin.

The situation in Cambodia will also undoubtedly be broached. You get the impression that China has begun to revise its stance on this question. As a result there is a chance to settle the conflict rapidly. How far the Chinese approach has evolved remains to be clarified during the talks.

Why was Harbin of all Chinese cities chosen? First, the geographical factor was influential. Harbin is in northeast China, not far from Pyongyang and Vladivostok. Moreover, the city is of special significance for us as one of the main Russian emigration centers. In this light of this factor Shevardnadze's visit acquires special symbolism.

The minister arrives in Harbin on the evening of 31 August. The whole day of 1 September will be devoted to talks with Qian Qichen. Shevardnaze will fly to the DPRK capital on the morning of 2 September.

Pyongyang

The Foreign Ministry representatives whom I met with on the eve of the trip preferred not to expatiate on the visit to North Korea. It is possible that our specific relations with that country, particularly of late, and Pyongyang's ambiguous reaction to the processes taking place in the Soviet Union and East Europe are the cause here.

It can be assumed that the situation on the Korean peninsula will be the focus of the talks. It cannot be ruled out that the North Korean leaders will express to the Soviet minister their concern regarding the development and strengthening of our ties—not just economic ones—with South Korea.

Discussion will also probably turn to the American military presence in South Korea. Positive shifts in the American stance on this question have been noticeable of late. Whereas previously the Americans refused altogether to touch on their nuclear weapons deployed on the peninsula in talks with the Soviet Union, now they have agreed to discuss this topic. Moreover, Washington recently reduced its military personnel in South Korea. Moscow received this move with approval. However, the United States is making further concessions dependent on Pyongyang's nuclear policy. Washington is voicing fears that work in the nuclear sphere is being carried out in the DPRK and that the country may soon become capable of producing nuclear weapons. As is well known, Pyongyang denies these charges.

Shevardnadze will spend more than 24 hours in the DPRK capital. On the evening of 3 September he flies from Pyongyang to Vladivostok.

Vladivostok

The second international meeting entitled "Asian-Pacific Region: Dialogue, Peace, and Cooperation" will take place in the city 4-6 September. Around 150 foreign guests from 21 countries will take part in it. The ambassadors of Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, Laos, and the Philippines will come specially from Moscow. A major speech by Shevardnadze is expected on the morning of 4 September, after which the minister will fly to the Japanese capital that evening.

Tokyo

As distinct from the Chinese and North Korean legs of the ministerial tour, the visit to Japan is an official one. It was planned for March this year, but did not happen for a number of reasons.

The talks in Tokyo will be devoted in the main to preparation for President Gorbachev's visit to Japan. The exact timetable has not been announced yet. It is known only that Gorbachev will go to Tokyo next year. It is possible that Shevardnadze and his Japanese interlocutors will agree the date of the Soviet leader's visit.

A package of approximately 10 agreements will be discussed at the talks, which it is planned to sign during Gorbachev's visit. I think it still too early to list these agreements, particularly as the list could be refined or supplemented during Shevardnadze's visit.

The problem of the "northern territories" will certainly be the focus of attention at the talks. This question blocks the development of Soviet-Japanese relations in many spheres. It is well known that the Japanese make expansion of our economic ties and the USSR's participation in regional economic cooperation dependent on the solution of the territorial issue.

A certain softening of Tokyo's stance has now seemingly emerged. Perhaps the Japanese have appreciated that the tactics of the hard squeeze and constant strong-arm pressure which they have employed at all Soviet-Japanese talks in recent years will come to naught. Tokyo should realize that Soviet public opinion is opposed to handing over the four Kuril Islands to Japan, and the Soviet leadership cannot ignore this factor. Moreover, the solution of the territorial dispute needs mandatory approval in the USSR and RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviets, which does not come automatically today. And one more factor: After the patent concessions we made recently on the German question it can scarcely be expected that Moscow will prove so pliant in yet another area.

You get the impression that the Japanese have realized they should not wait for a Soviet back-down on the "northern territories" issue. More flexible tactics need to be adopted and compromises sought. Lately disagreements on the territorial problem have appeared even in the ruling party—this is a sign that Japan is ready to

make certain modifications to its approach. As to which precisely, Shevardnadze's visit should answer this question.

On the whole, however, the stances of Tokyo and Moscow remain diametrically opposed. Both sides consider their claims to the islands well-founded and historically based.

One can predict with certainty that the Tokyo talks will discuss in detail the situation in the Persian Gulf, particularly as Japanese Foreign Minister Nakayama will just be returning at that time from a trip to countries of the region. As of now Soviet and Japanese views on the situation in the Persian Gulf coincide in many respects.

The military and political situation in the Asian and Pacific region and confidence-building measures in the military sphere will be a likely topic of conversations. Hitherto dialogue on this question between us and the Japanese has not developed. Perhaps it will be possible this time to achieve some movement here, particularly as the Soviet Union has stated its readiness to hold not bilateral but trilateral Soviet-Japanese-American consultations if the Japanese side should so wish.

An audience with Emperor Hirohito, a meeting with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, and a series of talks with Nakayama, leader of the Japanese diplomatic department, are planned for the Soviet foreign minister during the visit. Shevardnadze will fly from Tokyo to Moscow on the morning of 7 September after a press conference.

Vladivostok Conference Slated

LD3008124890 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondents Igor Peskov and Mikhail Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—The forthcoming second international conference on "The Asian-Pacific Region: Dialogue, Peace, Cooperation" in Vladivostok, in the Soviet Far East, between September 4-7 has generated a lot of interest both in this country and abroad.

The first such forum in the Far Eastern port took place two years ago, in the autumn of 1988. It was effectively the first major international meeting in Vladivistok, which had previously been closed to foreigners, and captivated the imagination of political, public and business circles in the Asian-Pacific region.

That conference discussed important regional issues and demonstrated that the "Eastern door to the Soviet Union," as Vladivistok is often called, was increasingly opening to the outside world.

Participants, including eminent public figures, politicians, scholars and entrepreneurs from a number of countries, called for such meetings to be held regularly.

The organising committee for the second Vladivostok conference is led by Academician Viktor Ilichev, who will chair the meeting itself.

Soviet Foreign Minsiter Eduard Shevardnadze, who is leaving on visits to China, North Korea and Japan in early September, will attend as well. In his address to the conference he is expected to explain Soviet policies in the region.

The conference will hear reports by Leticia Shahani, chairwoman of the Philippine Senate Foreign Relations Committee, U.S. Professor M. Scalapino, a leading expert on Asian and Pacific affairs, and Mikhail Titarenko, director of the Soviet Academ of Sciences' Institute of the Far East.

More than 70 foreign representatives and journalists are expected to take part in the meeting's three workshops, which will deal with the military and political situation, trade and economic cooperation, and humanitarian and cultural cooperation in the region.

Shevardnadze, UNESCO Information Official Meet

LD3008165290 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze today received UNESCO Deputy Director-General Genrikh Juskevicius, responsible for the activities of the international organisation in the field of communications, information and informatics.

The Soviet representative was appointed to the important post, which was created in UNESCO for the first time ever, in order to use modern communication facilities more effectively and create more favourable conditions for contacts between peoples in the interest of mutual understanding and cooperation.

The minister stressed that the Soviet Union will support UNESCO efforts in this important area. The Soviet side is open for broad international cooperation in the field of information, which is in line with the policy of perestroyka and glasnost in the Soviet Union, Shevardnadze said.

Commentary Views East-West Military Cooperation

LD3108030990 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Commentary by Vladimir Kozyakov]

[Text] And now our analyst, Vladislav Kozyakov, comments on the Soviet Union's cooperation with the United States, Britain, and other countries in the effort to bring Iraq's aggression to a halt. Here is what he writes:

This cooperation is regarded by rights as unprecedented and historic. It is proof that the cold war has receded into the past and has given way to new thinking. President

Bush declared in one of his statements that the denunciation by the Soviet Union of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait proved that the countries who had been allies in World War II could work together again in order to stop today's aggressors. And British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher pointed out recently that for her the Soviet Union was no enemy to the country that was seeking freedom. Such high assessments of the Soviet Union's policy predominate in the West today.

And yet, some discordant voices are also heard. For example, there are American newspapers claiming that the backing by the Soviet Union, along with the United States, Britain, and other countries, of the United Nations Security Council resolution denouncing Iraq's aggression is not enough. Proof is also needed that the Soviet Union poses no danger to the interests of the United States and its allies.

What is behind such sentiments? One of the comments published in THE NEW YORK TIMES suggests that Moscow should hand over to Americans information about missiles and other Soviet-made weapons sold to Iraq. And THE WASHINGTON TIMES is even more specific: What we need, it writes, is the information on how to combat such Soviet means of warfare as the MiG-23 aircraft, the T-72 tanks, and others; what are their vulnerable spots, asks the paper?

The London SUNDAY TIMES carried a report saying that the Soviet military attache in Washington allegedly supplied the Pentagon with the characteristics of Soviet-made missiles in the Scud class, available in Iraq. This was wishful thinking on the paper's part. The exchange of military data is not a simple question, and not only for the Soviet side. Why not recall how during World War II America refused to divulge any information to the Soviet Union about its atomic bomb, although the two countries were fighting against a common enemy? And now that Soviet-American relations have improved, the United States, nevertheless, is still far from inclined to give some of its secrets on the SDI program to the Soviet Union.

And the list of such examples goes on. Although an understanding has been reached to bring about a settlement in Afghanistan by political means, American missiles of the Stinger class and British Blowpipes, still being delivered to Mujahidin, threaten Soviet passenger and transport planes flying to Kabul in Afghanistan. Why can Washington or London not give us information on how we can protect our planes from these missiles? However, no such information is forthcoming.

In short, the question of weapons and their characteristics is a difficult one. Why do Western newspapers take it up and pose it as a field where the Soviet Union should give proof of its intentions of combating the Iraqi aggression? What is it? The intertia of old approaches to the Soviet Union, or a deliberate attempt to cast a shadow on the Soviet Union's policy? Either of the two is bad, because it prevents people in the West from understanding what is most important—that the Soviet Union, United States, Britain and other countries, once World War II allies, have again come together. They have formed a new coalition which many other countries have joined as well. They have come together in order to stop the aggression and consolidate peace on the basis of law and legality.

United States & Canada

U.S. Airline To Charter Flights to Magadan

PM3008155190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0830 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Report by V. Gerasimov and cameraman F. Belik from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] An agreement has been signed in Anchorage between the airmen of the Magadan Civil Aviation Administration and the Alaska firm Norton Air Cargo.

[Gerasimov] [video shows aircraft, passengers on tarmac] In a few minutes this Tu-154 airliner will take off from Magadan for Anchorage—the major city in the state of Alaska. A large group of Soviet and foreign passengers is taking this charter flight across the Bering Strait. As of today flights will be provided by the U.S. company Norton Air Cargo. This is one of the largest U.S. airlines serving northern U.S. routes. Suffice it to say that the Alaskan pilots carry more than 22,000 tonnes of cargo and mail every year. The DC-6—a U.S. cargo aircraft that can carry more than 40 tonnes of freight—will fly into Magadan. The Anchorage agreement was signed on behalf of the Magadan Civil Aviation Administration by Bashlachev, commander of the Magadan United Aviation Detachment. [video shows A.Ye. Bashlachev]

[Bashlachev] The agreement envisages cargo and passenger services: Following the signing of this agreement, Norton Air Cargo became our administration's representative in Alaska as of the 22d [of August]. This all means stability, reliability, savings of time, and greater convenience for passengers.

[Gerasimov] How much do tickets for Soviet and foreign tourists cost?

[Bashlachev] Tickets for Soviet tourists or citizens flying to Alaska cost 550 rubles one way. It costs foreign passengers $550 one way.

[Gerasimov] Here is another question. These days many people are clamoring around Aeroflot desks wanting to fly from Moscow to the United States. Can they use this route?

[Bashlachev] Yes, the route can be used by any citizen—either from our country or abroad—with the relevant documents for traveling out of the country and the necessary tickets.

[Gerasimov] Tell me, what is the current state of the talks on starting regular passenger flights between Magadan and Anchorage?

[Bashlachev] Under the documents signed by the government, this work is being conducted quite intensively. As of next year, starting in June, the Alaskan authorities are planning to conduct three flights a week to the USSR. Under the documents determining procedures for international flights, our side will also be entitled to have three flights a week. These flights will be carried out by our Magadan Civil Aviation Administration on an alternating basis.

China

Chinese, Indian Delegations Hold Border Talks

OW3108000790 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Commentary by Mikhaylov]

[Text] A meeting of the working group on the Sino-Indian border question began in the Indian capital on 30 August. The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reports that the Indian delegation is led by Dubey, the foreign secretary, and the Chinese delegation is led by Qi Huaiyuan, deputy foreign minister.

The border question is still the most complex issue between these two Asian powers. This issue led to bloody conflict in the disputed section in the Himalayas in 1960. Even the eight previous border negotiations sessions, which began in 1981, failed to effect any significant results. Rajiv Gandhi, then Indian prime minister, visited Beijing at the end of 1988. After talks with Chinese leaders, both sides reaffirmed that the border question remained at issue. At the same time, they also admitted that this could and should be solved through bilateral negotiations. The Joint Working Group on border issues was formed; its first meeting was in Beijing last July. The second round of meetings was held in New Delhi on 30 August of this year.

According to reports, proposals for discussing other aspects of bilateral relations will be made at the meeting. Recently, China and India have issued a number of statements on developing bilateral ties. For this objective, both sides have proceeded from the viewpoint of promoting cooperation in various fields through mutual efforts. This will be conducive to settling the border question. Doubtless, the border question, unsolved for several years, cannot be solved in one day. What is important here, however, is that both sides have expressed their goodwill and want fruitful dialogue to continue. I want to point out that these characteristics (?were lacking) in previous Sino-Indian border talks. I hope that consultations in New Delhi will lead to improvement in all fields of mutual relations between the big powers in Asia and hope that both sides will work hard in this direction.

Last month the Indian Government advanced a new proposal for solving the Sino-Indian border question. This proves its intentions.

Northeast Asia

Minister Discusses DPRK-U.S. Dialogue

PM3108113990 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Interview with DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam by correspondent V. Lukashin: "From Confrontation to Dialogue"]

[Text] Pyongyang—For more than 40 years the Korean peninsula has been a zone of acute contradictions of a global and regional nature. Two opposite socioeconomic systems confront one another here. The result is tension in relations between North and South, which has an adverse effect on the situation throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The country's split was a national tragedy for the Korean people. The conversation between Kim Yong-nam, member of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the Administration Council, and DPRK foreign minister, and our IZVESTIYA correspondent was about the DPRK government's quest for ways of easing tension on the Korean peninsula.

"One of the main areas of the political course of the WPK leadership and DPRK government," Comrade Kim Yong-nam said, "is securing lasting peace on the Korean peninsula and creating favorable conditions for the homeland's peaceful unification.

"As you know, in July 1987 we put forward a proposal on a large-scale, stage-by-stage reduction of Armed Forces and we unilaterally cut the DPRK Army by 100,000 men. A little earlier, in June 1986, our country had proposed creating a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula, and recently we again put forward an initiative on holding triparite talks involving the DPRK, the United States, and South Korea.

"The DPRK's position is clearly expressed in the four principles for safeguarding peace and in the all-embracing peace proposals promulgated in November 1988. Their basic content is that peace on the Korean peninsula must be geared to the country's unification and guaranteed by the withdrawal of foreign Armed Forces from Korean territory; it must be ensured by a reduction of the Armed Forces of North and South and implemented by means of a dialogue between interested individuals who bear responsibility for the exacerbation of tension.

"Believe me: If only one of these proposals had been implemented a breach would have been made long ago in the ferroconcrete wall dividing the Korean peninsula and a peaceful solution of the Korean question would have been achieved.

"What is the problem, then? The main sticking point in the struggle to achieve the country's peaceful unification remains the South Korean leadership's efforts to pursue a 'two Koreas' policy and the desire to perpetuate the country's division. In our view, the only way to unify the country is to implement the proposal on creating the democratic confederative republic of Koryo—the introduction of a confederation system.

"Everyone realizes that dialogue is necessary. That is why we put forward a proposal on convening a national conference for peace and Korean unification. We were prepared to make concessions and discuss Seoul's 'unification proposal' at the conference. So it was that a conference was held on 15 August in Panmunjom, which is situated on the demarcation line between North and South. Despite the fact that there were no Seoul administration representatives in Panmunjom, the occasion itself reflected the entire Korean people's desire for national unity.

"Unfortunately, we are not the only players. Seoul is obstinately trying to pursue a 'two Koreas' policy and is insisting on 'cross-recognition' of South Korea and its 'UN membership.' We believe, however, that our country should join the United Nations after unification under a single name. It is time people realized that a new approach to North-South dialogue is needed."

[Lukashin] I have often been to Panmunjom, where the meetings take place between representatives of the DPRK governments and representatives of South Korea who have the job of preparing for high-level military-political talks. In your view, what are the prospects for this dialogue?

[Kim] As I have said, the solution of the question of the country's reunification by means of talks is the DPRK's invariable stance. In line with the spirit of the times, we are trying to achieve the country's unification by means of dialogue. We are proposing that it take place through various channels: We are making efforts to bring about successful high-level military-political talks; parliamentary talks; and talks between Red Cross societies' representatives and various public organizations. In short, the DPRK is doing its utmost to relieve tension, to eliminate feuds and distrust, and create favorable conditions for the country's peaceful unification. The South is behaving differently.

Seoul goes on about the country's peaceful unification but, in fact, it is intensifying the repressions against South Korean students and against all South Korean democratic forces advocating a broad dialogue.

High-level meetings are planned for this fall in Seoul and Pyongyang. We are pinning great hopes on them. However, the outcome will depend largely on the South Korean leaders' approach to this dialogue.

[Lukashin] The role of the Asia-Pacific region countries in world politics and the world economy is growing at a rapid rate. Unfortunately, the Pacific remains at the moment an arena of military-political confrontation. A process of talks and agreements is operating in Europe. Could something similar be achieved in the Asia-Pacific region, Comrade Minister?

[Kim] The Asia-Pacific region currently occupies an exceedingly important place in world politics. A stable situation in the region could guarantee the strengthening of peace worldwide. On the initiative of the Soviet Union and other Asia-Pacific region countries, measures are being adopted to reduce armaments and a vigorous movement for the creation of a nuclear-free peace zone is unfolding. Distrust and confrontation are gradually being overcome in the region's countries and an atmosphere of trust and cooperation is being established.

However, there have also been attempts to inhibit the process of easing the situation in the Asia-Pacific region. For example, the United States is still clinging to the "position-of-strength policy" here. Take the Korean peninsula. Around it the Pentagon maintains large troop contingents and nuclear weapons and regularly holds the major "Team Spirit" and "Pacex" military exercises.

[Lukashin] But there have been reports in the Western press alleging that "unofficial talks" are taking place between the DPRK and the United States....

[Kim] Korea and the United States are faced with very urgent tasks which can only be solved through joint efforts. First and foremost there is the replacement of the armistice agreement with a peace treaty. We have repeatedly put forward ideas for conducting talks with the United States and are making efforts to implement them. One of the reasons why it has hitherto been impossible to arrange a dialogue is Washington's failure to properly appreciate the DPRK's position.

At the same time, some movement has occurred. In the belief that contacts between experts can be an effective contribution to clearing away the obstructions caused by the cold war, we are conducting scientific-technical exchange with the United States on a narrow range of problems. This is exemplified by U.S. scientist Prof. G. Sigur's visit to Pyongyang. We saw it as a sign of goodwill. In short, the time has come to arrange a dialogue between Korea and the United States. That is our position.

And another aspect. In Beijing there have been just a few meetings between our countries' diplomats. At the meetings the two sides have informed one another of their positions on questions that crop up periodically. For example, we suggested that the United States introduce the practice of discussing measures that ease tension on the Korean peninsula.

[Lukashin] You will remember, of course, that an extensive program to strengthen security and develop cooperation among the Asia-Pacific countries was set out in M.S. Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech and in his speech in Krasnoyarsk. What can you say about the Soviet proposals?

[Kim] The USSR government's peace-loving program to safeguard security in the Asia-Pacific region and turn it into a zone of peace and cooperation was indeed formulated in USSR President M.S. Gorbachev's Vladivostok and Krasnoyarsk speeches. It set out specific proposals, including the question of the leading maritime powers' refraining from building up their naval forces, of Soviet and U.S. evacuation of military bases in Vietnam and the Philippines respectively, and of the earliest convening of an international conference on turning the Indian Ocean into a nuclear-free zone. We actively support the Soviet Union's peace proposals and wish them the speediest implementation.

[Lukashin] As is known, Soviet Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze will be visiting the DPRK in the next few days. What do you expect from this meeting, Comrade Minister?

[Kim] We are glad that Eduard Amvrosiyevich is coming. We have long had good, comradely relations. On this occasion we will be discussing a whole range of complex questions. I must say that previous meetings have taken place in a spirit of mutual understanding and complete trust. I hope that that will be the case on this occasion....

DPRK Debts to Maritime Kray Remain Unpaid

SK3108055490 Moscow International Service in Korean 0900 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Maritime Kray News" program]

[Excerpt] Boris Yeltsin, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, has wound up his visit to the Soviet republics. During his visit, he went around Maritime Kray.

As in other various places in the Soviet Union, the area lacks many things, such as houses. Leaders in Maritime Kray view that this problem could be settled in part if the DPRK pays its debts. According to various evaluations, it is said that the debts amount to $3 or $7 billion. [passage omitted]

DPRK, ROK Delegations Meet on Maritime Kray

SK3108120790 Moscow International Service in Korean 0900 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Maritime Kray News" program]

[Text] A memorandum was adopted between the Standing Committee of the Far East Department of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the delegation of the South Korean scientists and entrepreneurs led by Song Tu-ho. A clause on (?contacts between delegations) and on scientific and technological relations in various fields is stipulated in the memorandum.

Song Tu-ho is a lawmaker from Pusan district.

Maritime Kray and the South Korean scholars are planning to hold direct contacts convenient to both sides.

The delegation coming from South Korea met with representatives of the Soviet-Korean Maritime Committee.

PRAVDA Interviews Former ROK Minister

SK3108121790 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Asian News" program]

[Text] Yi Hyon-chae, former South Korean prime minister, expressed his opinion that the course of normalizing relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union is one that cannot be reversed.

In an interview with the Soviet paper PRAVDA, he pointed out that contacts of trade and economic cooperation are being held, and that exchanges of delegations consisting of scholars, athletes, and entrepreneurs are being made.

Yi Hyon-chae said that the prospect of cooperation in trade and economic and (?technical) fields between two countries is very bright. He said that to help conduct economic reform in the Soviet Union, South Korea is ready to cooperate in developing Siberia and Far East districts which are near South Korea.

Yi Hyon-chae said that if diplomatic relations between the two countries are fully established, cooperation will be multilateral and success will be effected.

Mongolia Acquires Reliable Communications System

LD3008132990 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0732 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Kim Boldokhonov]

[Excerpts] Ulaanbaatar, 30 Aug (TASS)—The "Asiasat" automatic satellite communication station will provide the Mongolian capital with 24-hour telephone, fax, and telex communication with 195 countries of the world. It began operating via a satellite launched by China at the beginning of April. [passage omitted] The "Intersputnik" system, the services of which the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR] has enjoyed until now, was limited to the socialist countries.

The Mongolian Ministry of Communications, together with the British firm "Cable and Wireless," undertook to fill this gap. The partners agreed to ensure reliable communication for Ulaanbaatar, UNEN reported.

Preparatory work is now being carried out to link Mongolia to a third, and the largest, system of international space communication. On completion of this program, the MPR will have reliable communication with all other countries.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Asian Coconuts Used To Aid Chernobyl Victims

OW3108005890 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0600 GMT 24 Aug 90

[From the "Asian Affairs" program]

[Text] Coconut is the name given to a charity project jointly launched by four newspapers, the Soviet Union's PRAVDA, Vietnam's NHAN DAN, Laos' PASASON, and Cambodia's PRACHEACHON. Its activities are intended to help victims of the 1986 Chernobyl accident.

Why is the project called Coconut? Ripe coconuts are needed for the production of medicine that can decrease contamination by radioactive nuclides in the human body. There are no fruit-bearing coconut trees in the Soviet Union, but they are found all over Indochina.

Dear listeners: Many of you already know that coconuts are used widely in foods, spices, and native handicrafts. At the same time, large numbers of coconut husks are dumped in the garbage. At present, the Soviet Union is in dire need of coconut husks, which are used to manufacture valuable medicine that can help victims of the Chernobyl accident. For this reason, the editorial departments of the four newspapers have appealed to their readers to send coconut husks to the Soviet Union. The call has been met with widespread support in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia.

Here are the comments of (Vokhodat), a member of the standing committee of the Lao front for national reconstruction [organization title as heard]. He said: We sympathize with the Soviet people who suffered in the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. We are prepared to do our best to help them. There are three coconut trees in my garden. I plan to send the fruits of those trees for use as ingredients in the medicine.

The appeal by the four newspapers has aroused interest in other countries too. Cuba, India, and Mozambique are now studying the possibility of providing the Soviet Union with coconut husks. We want to express our thanks to all who participated in these activities, which have entered a practical phase. The first batch of coconut husks received by Ukrainian experts are now being made into medicine. In September, the medicine will be forwarded to children who suffered in the horrible Chernobyl disaster. This was disclosed in PRAVDA's 23 August editions.

Near East & South Asia

Gorbachev, Ozal Discuss Relations, Gulf Crisis

NC3008154590 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0440 GMT 28 Aug 90

[From the "republican press review"]

[Text] President Turgut Ozal of Turkey telephoned President Mikhail Gorbachev on 25 August. A report published in KOMMUNIST said that the two men held a rather [word indistinct] and auspicious discussion. They noted the improvement in economic relations and new, important suggestions were put forward. They also noted the good-neighborly spirit characterizing relations between the Soviet Union and Turkey and which is of particular importance in the current reconstruction drive in the Soviet Union during the present era of international development.

Gorbachev confirmed that President Turgut Ozal has been invited to officially visit the Soviet Union. The two presidents also confirmed with satisfaction the existence of a mutual agreement between them on the situation in the Gulf region and the ways to resolve the problem.

The two presidents expressed their wish to maintain and broaden their mutual dialogue.

Belonogov Heads Supreme Soviet Talks on Gulf

Favors Iraqi Withdrawal

LD3008144190 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1350 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Andrey Orlov]

[Text] Moscow, 30 Aug (TASS)—The parliamentary Committee on International Affairs favors the complete and immediate withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait, the complete restoration of its sovereignty, national independence, and territorial integrity. This is what the statement says that was adopted today by the committee on the results of the discussion of the crisis situation in the Persian Gulf caused by the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq and its annexation. Aleksandr Belonogov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, told the parliamentarians of the political and diplomatic steps undertaken by the USSR Government aimed at overcoming the crisis as soon as possible.

The document stresses that evacuation of the USSR Embassy personnel does not in the least imply recognition of the annexation of Kuwait by Iraq and the severance of Soviet-Kuwaiti diplomatic relations. The statement also says the USSR expresses its concern for the fate of foreign citizens and considers their forced detention in Iraq impermissible. It is recommended that following completion of the evacuation of women and children from Iraq the Soviet Government should review the advisability of recalling all Soviet specialists from Iraq.

The statement stresses full support for the comprehensive efforts being made to find a way out of the crisis within the framework of the Security Council and notes the importance of restraining the United States from the use of force in the region.

The buildup of U.S. military might cannot be a source of pleasure to us, Aleksandr Belonogov said, either in the short-term, since the situation is becoming increasingly explosive, or in the long-term, since there is no guarantee that the United States will leave Saudi Arabia once the crisis is over. In response to a question, Aleksandr Belonogov said the United States had informed the USSR of the decision to dispatch troops to Saudi Arabia, although the USSR had not expressed approval of this measure.

The Soviet Union's compliance with sanctions has resulted in losses, Aleksandr Belonogov said. For example, losses in 1990 will total over $800 million: $520 million as a result of oil not supplied by Iraq for reexport to India, Bulgaria, Romania, and other countries, and $290 million in the form of goods and services not supplied to the USSR. A total of $115 million's worth of goods and financial resources from Kuwait of $700 million. Iraq is not in debt to the Soviet Union, the deputy minister reported.

Following the evacuation of Soviet women and children from Iraq, 7,000 people remain in the country, including 5,000 on construction sites in the south of the country. There are 193 military specialists from the USSR working in Iraq, not one of whom is a military adviser. The USSR has ceased sending military specialists to Iraq.

'Principled Approach' Taken

PM3008212990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

["Own information" report: "Principled Approach"]

[Text] The acutely critical situation in the Persian Gulf zone caused by Iraq's aggression against Kuwait was one of the main topics at yesterday's session of the USSR Supreme Soviet International Affairs Committee.

USSR Deputy Foreign Minister A.M. Belonogov analyzed the situation in the region and expounded the Soviet stance and the measures taken by the country's leadership. He described the main areas in which Soviet diplomacy has been operating. That is to say, the need to eliminate the consequences of Iraqi aggression, to prevent the conflict from growing, to channel the conflict into a political settlement, and finally to guarantee and protect USSR state interests and the dignity and safety of Soviet citizens in Kuwait and Iraq. The use of the international mechanism in the form of the UN Security Council was stressed. Intensive bilateral and multilateral contacts have been and are being carried out simultaneously with the United States, West European, Arab, and other countries, Warsaw Pact members, and Iraq.

In the course of the ensuing discussion deputies, while noting the promptness of the Soviet response to events, expressed concern at the buildup of military potential in the crisis zone and the absence of unity among Arab countries regarding the aggressor's actions. Individual

speeches recommended that the Soviet Government examine the question of evacuating all Soviet specialists from Iraq. This was justified by both the threatening situation and the principled approach of the USSR itself.

While noting the need to predict the further development of the situation Deputy G.I. Yanayev also drew attention to the attempts to cast the Soviet stance in a false light. In particular, it is presented to Arab public opinion as a deal between the two great powers. And, vice versa, while whipping up speculation over the discovery of Soviet specialists in Iraq attempts are made to make the public in the West think that the USSR is playing a double game. In the deputy's opinion, there has, unfortunately, been a "flabby response" from our side to this kind of insinuation.

At the same time the principled nature of the USSR stance is obvious. This was again demonstrated by deputies in adopting a decision to support the Soviet Government's actions and the thrust of those actions toward settling the conflict by political means.

Belonogov Interviewed on Evacuations From Gulf

LD3108151190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1212 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Belonogov by unidentified studio presenter in Moscow—live; by telephone]

[Text] [Announcer] On the line now is Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Belonogov, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, who is responsible for the Near East and who is indeed closely engaged now in the situation in the Persian Gulf region, the situation surrounding this conflict. Good day, Aleksandr Mikhaylovich!

[Belonogov] Good day.

[Announcer] Aleksandr Mikhaylovich, the first question which would no doubt be of interest to our listeners is this: How is the evacuation of Soviet citizens from Iraq going? And how did the evacuation from Kuwait go—if you could cover all this in one reply?

[Belonogov] It can be said that this evacuation is going quite successfully. An aircraft landed at Sheremetyevo-1 this morning on which 316 people arrived from Iraq. They are members of the families of staff of Soviet overseas establishments and specialists working in Iraq. Among these 316 people are 67 children and the remainder are women. Apparently, this is the last-but-one group of family members to be evacuated from Iraq. There will be one more; most likely that group will arrive by air on 5 September. Altogether there are now 140 women and 59 children left in Iraq. We are proceeding from the view that in the first place, of course, the women and children must be evacuated: afterwards one can possibly talk about the men, too.

[Announcer] Aleksandr Mikhaylovich, but hostages from other countries remain in these countries. What is the situation with regard to them?

[Belonogov] Speak a little more loudly, I cannot hear you.

[Announcer] Pardon me. I am saying that as far as we know there are also foreign hostages from other states in these countries, in Iraq and Kuwait. What is the situation as far as they are concerned?

[Belonogov] Well first of all I would not like to include our Soviet citizens in the category of hostages. Things have not gone as far as that and I hope that they won't go that far. But the situation really is serious with the citizens of other states. True, quite recently it became known that Iraq is apparently agreeing to release women and children, but it is not yet clear how this intention is going to be implemented, on what scale will it be. Does this measure effect the citizens of all states without any discrimination, or will only the citizens of certain individual states be released? So let's see how the situation develops. Our position of principle, of course, is that all foreigners who want to leave Iraq must have the right and the opportunity to do so.

Gerasimov Addresses Criticisms of Soviet Role

PM3108085790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 Aug 90 p 4

[Report by Sami 'Imarah: "Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: The Moral Aspect of Moscow Position Remains"]

[Excerpt] Moscow, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—The "flexible" position adopted by the Soviet Union in dealing with the crisis in the Gulf region, with regard to both the keeping of its experts in Iraq and its rejection of the use of force in implementing Security Council Resolution 665, places it in an embarrassing situation in the eyes of Western media circles. The U.S. State Department spokesman criticized this position, saying: "Providing aid, including keeping the experts in Iraq, is a violation of the Security Council resolutions on sanctions against Baghdad."

In Moscow AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asked Gennadiy Gerasimov, official spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, to comment on these criticisms. He said: Security Council Resolution 661 talks about sanctions—which cover all kinds of imports from and exports to Iraq, including weapons in particular, maritime transport from and to Iraq, and all kinds of financial transfers.

The official spokesman went on to say: "But these sanctions do not include political, diplomatic, and consular relations, or air and land transportation, or the activities of experts whose work does not relate to the production of goods for export. Nor do they apply to contacts in the cultural, education, sports, and information fields." Gerasimov emphasized that that he did not

believe that the Soviet side had committed a violation in legal terms, "but the moral aspect of the problem remains. We admit that and will try to resolve it." [passage omitted]

Pact Leader Warns Against Growing U.S. Buildup

LD3008162790 Moscow TASS in English 1601 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Andrey Orlov]

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—The military chief of the Warsaw Pact has expressed grave concern over the continuing U.S. military build-up in the Gulf. General Lobov, the Warsaw Treaty chief-of-staff, spoke to TASS today after the Gulf crisis was discussed by the Soviet Parliament's International Affairs Committee.

Stressing that he was expressing his personal point of view, Lobov offered a likely scenario of further developments in the region.

At present West Europe is the United States' main bridgehead for controlling Middle East oil. But Americans may lose the legal basis for their military presence in Europe after the reunification of Germany and in case of success at the Vienna talks. The current crisis over Iraq and Kuwait opens new possibilities for the United States.

If the United States goes ahead with its plan of deploying 250,000 soldiers in Saudi Arabia, which is close to NATO member Turkey, let alone invade Iraq (which cannot be ruled out completely), there will form a single "arch" between NATO's eastern wing and Saudi Arabia.

This drastically changes the strategic balance in the region, the general commented.

"What is more, Iraq is only 200 kilometers from the borders of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, which gives the United States an opportunity to exert pressure on events in this region," the general continued.

Finally, the U.S. military build-up in the region may wreck the Vienna talks. NATO's right-hand wing receives 250,000 men with aircraft, tanks and armaments which are not counted at the Vienna talks. Obviously, in this event the alignment of forces will change sharply.

Soviet policy should take all this into account, Lobov said.

U.S. President, Congress Meet on Gulf Crisis

PM3108094590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 90 First Edition p 4

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent V. Gan: "Room To Maneuver"]

[Text] Washington—Having broken off his vacation in Maine, U.S. President G. Bush has returned to Washington to hold what his advisers call a very important meeting with members of Congress. It has been convened in response to the legislators' mounting dissatisfaction over the administration's actions in the Persian Gulf region.

For all the obviousness of the support for Bush's general course on the Capitol Hill there have been increasingly frequent complaints about the White House's hastiness and arbitrariness. Indeed, inasmuch as the country's supreme legislative organ is now also in recess, the crisis of nearly four weeks has been virtually entirely in the sole management of the administration.

But with the approaching resumption of the work of Congress and especially in the light of the forthcoming mid-term elections in November, the administration can hardly allow itself the luxury of creating the impression among voters that their representatives have no part in state affairs. That is why the idea has come of convening a conference which, ABC television noted, should give "them the feeling that they are involved."

The idea has succeeded. After a meeting lasting over an hour the leaders of Congress and about 150 members of key committees of Congress wholly supported the president. Responding to Bush's words "let no one doubt my commitment to work with the Congress and let no one doubt our national unity or our staying power," House Speaker T. Foley stated: "The President has strong all-round support."

Actually, some legislators preferred to leave "room to maneuver" in case everything fails to turn out as Washington would like. Bush was asked questions about the cost of the entire operation and the prospects for the greater involvement of Western and Arab allies in the conflict. From the legislators representing the oil-producing states there were rebukes concerning U.S. dependence on cheap foreign oil.

Bush asked Congress for "patience." The level of public support for the president is now very high. But that by no means signifies that the legislators or the people who elected them will accept everything the White House tells them. And when G. Mitchell, the leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, said that "the approval of past actions does not mean the approval of all future actions without ascertaining their thrust," then getting lost in conjecture would be a futile undertaking at the least. In America patience also has its limits....

Evacuation of Soviets From Iraq Continues

LD3108063990 Moscow TASS in English 0633 GMT 31 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow August 31 TASS—A third group of Soviet citizens evacuated from Iraq arrived this morning

in Moscow on an Aeroflot flight. The group consists of 316 people, including 67 children.

TASS learned from the Soviet Foreign Ministry that the evacuation of families of Soviet specialists from Iraq has virtually been concluded. The specialists themselves will remain in Iraq for the time being.

Arab League Said To Face 'No Easy Solutions'

PM3008160390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by own correspondent D. Velikiy: "Diplomats Given a Chance"]

[Text] Cairo—The conference of Arab League foreign ministers in Cairo was eagerly awaited in the region. The event was supposed to take place two weeks after the Cairo summit, so that forum's resolution stated. The date was not kept, however.

The ministers' meeting was fixed and then called off. This organizational mess was a very clear manifestation of the Arab split, caused by the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the subsequent unprecedented massing of foreign forces in the region.

However, deep as the differences among the the Arabs run, the majority of the Cairo forum countries' leaders voted for a resolution that contains, in particular, a point directing the Arab League secretary general to inform the organization of the implementation of the resolution within 15 days after the conference.

Before the Arab League secretary general reported on this point, there was a very interesting statement by Lieutenant General Prince Khalid Bin-Sultan 'Abd-al-'Aziz, commander in chief of the Arab and Islamic forces in Saudi Arabia:

"As I see it, there is nothing Saddam Husayn can do except acknowledge the reality of the situation or suffer the consequences," the lieutenant general said. "We know his behavior is unpredictable," he continued. "But I must assure you that, irrespective of the action he chooses to take, we have the capability to deal with him. It is clear that unless Saddam Husayn comes to his senses he will be destroyed.... The forces concentrated here, including Arab and Islamic, are quite sufficient to repulse an Iraqi aggression; and if it should start, we will act quickly. Meanwhile, the diplomats must be given a chance!"

Addressing foreign journalists in turn, Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said that the purpose of the meeting would be to elaborate constructive decisions, not to trade accusations.

A fine intention, no doubt. However, we must be aware that it is not always smooth sailing and that the meeting's success depends in many respects on the goodwill of the Iraqi side, on whether it is prepared for constructive talks, on whether it will refrain from attempts at diktat and threats. Like those, for example, which were made at the recent inter-Arab conference. As Husni Mubarak stated at a recent news conference in Alexandria, the Iraqi delegation members tried to blackmail the leaders of the Arab countries that had condemned the aggression by threatening to turn their states "upside down" and give support to antigovernment forces.

After the meeting, it has to be said, the Iraqi leaders' rhetoric became more refined. Saddam Husayn said a great deal about the foreign presence being a "danger" to the Muslim holy places.

It would be interesting to quote the Egyptian foreign minister's words at this point. At the aforementioned meeting with journalists he remarked apropos this rhetoric that it is not a question of the presence of foreign forces in holy places, but of Iraqi aggression against Kuwait. This is the crux of the matter, and it can be stated in no other way. The Egyptian foreign minister also cited for Saddam Husayn's benefit the old Arab proverb which says that you cannot fool all the people all of the time. We have heard many promises about the "withdrawal of forces," Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid pointed out, but what we need now is very definite positive steps by Iraq to defuse the situation.

Returning to the conference of the heads of the Arab diplomatic departments, set for Thursday, it is hard to say how things will go. One thing is clear—there will be no easy solutions.

Mideast Events Provide 'Lesson' on Aggression

LD3008195490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] For more than three weeks now the entire world's attention has been concentrated on the Persian Gulf region. Observers note that not since the setting up of the United Nations has the world community been so unanimous as it has been in its evaluation of Iraq's aggression against Kuwait, which Baghdad has proclaimed as its 19th province. Here is a Mayak commentary. International affairs journalist Igor Mikaylov is at the microphone:

Our nuclear age is demanding ever higher standards of statesmen. Any irresponsible move can cause an explosive situation, and acts of annexation and aggression lead to international conflict. The days of unpunished aggression have gone for good. The sanctions against foreigners in Kuwait and Iraq who following the aggression, have been turned into hostages, and the actions taken against diplomats, have aroused indignation throughout the world. The blackmail to which Saddam Husayn is resorting is comparable to the actions of the barbarians or the internecine strife during the dark days of the Middle Ages. Even Hitlerite Germany during the last war did not permit itself such an unceremonious flouting of diplomatic immunity.

The methods being used by the Iraqi regime provide much food for thought. The possibility of Baghdad using toxic weapons, for example, if hostilities break out, remains a real one. Iraqi representatives have confirmed that during the war against Iran Baghdad used chemical weapons on several occasions. Some years ago it became known in the West that Iraq had used toxic gases against the Kurds as well. As a result of this, about 10,000 people perished. Baghdad, which has a million-strong army at its disposal, intends to dictate its terms in the region. With this aim in mind, its aspiration to develop nuclear weapons is understandable. Specialists reckon that within three to five years Iraq could be in possession of these weapons, which are the most dangerous ones in existence at the present time.

One can't help asking what might ensue if Baghdad actually had the atomic bomb in its possession right now. Saddam Husayn himself clearly expects to sit out the conflict in one of the most expensive and comfortable bunkers in the world, in case a dangerous situation should arise. The bunker was built by a West German firm (?Boswau und Knauer) and can even withstand a nuclear blast. But if the adventurist policy pursued by the head of the regime leads to an explosion of discontent among the people of Iraq, this bomb shelter will hardly stand up to the onslaught.

In his "Centuries" the well-known astrologer and doctor of the 16th century, Nostradamus, who was famous for his prophecies, wrote that the Third World War could be caused by an Arab dictator. One is reluctant to believe such predictions, especially since Indian astrologers do not agree with this forecast. But is is absolutely clear that the world community must learn a lesson from the explosive situation which has come about. No dictator can be under any illusion that he can redraw the map of the world and get away with dictating his conditions to the peoples. As far as the ruling regime in Iraq, which continues its military occupation of Kuwait, is there concerned, there is a saying by the ancient philosophers which is applicable: People start wars when they want, but stop them when they can. History has repeatedly shown the truth of the fact that aggression has to be paid for sooner or later, and sometimes the price is very high.

East Europe

Soldiers in GDR Protest Against Return Home

AU3108112490 Paris AFP in English 1115 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Berlin, Aug 31 (AFP)—Soviet soldiers stationed in an East German village have been striking in protest against their return to the Soviet Union, the Magdeburg newspaper VOLKSSTIMME reported Friday.

Soldiers demonstrated in the centre of the village near Magdeburg Wednesday evening, dispersing only when threatened with disciplinary action by ther superiors, VOLKSSTIMME reported army wives as saying.

One woman told the newspaper they fear they will be sent to the Soviet Caucasus.

"It would be terrible. There are bound to be no apartments, schools, and playgrounds for the children. We'll have to live in tents, and the winter is coming," she said.

A spokesman for the Soviet forces based in Wunsdorf, south of Berlin, denied there had been a strike but conceded that the soldiers had been making "demands". He said the dispute was "under control" and would be resolved soon.

Some 380,000 Soviet troops will be withdrawn from East German soil over the next three years under the terms of an agreement signed in July by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Post-Unity Prospects for Germany Examined

PM3008124790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 5

[Report by correspondent Ye. Bovkun: "Farewell to 'Prussian' Socialism"]

[Excerpts] Bonn—When last week in Berlin Gregor Gysi, leader of the Party of Democratic Socialism, summed up what was for him the bitter result of the parliamentary debates, noting that the decision to enter the West German federation signifies the elimination of the GDR, his words were drowned in thunderous applause. There were no loud ovations about this in Bonn. The sigh of relief simultaneously heard from the factions of the main political parties could be attributed more to something else: At long last the political rivals in the uniting Germany had succeeded in worthily completing the exhausting debate on dates of entry. [passage omitted]

What could be described as the era of "Prussian" socialism is receding into the past. That is precisely what almost the entire existence of the GDR was. The socialist experiment on German soil did not work out. After the downfall of the "Third Reich" antifascist and democratic forces in the Eastern part of Germany began to build a new society, a society of social justice and equality. But in those historical conditions socialism in Germany could only become a "Prussian" version of Stalinism—a party dictatorship relying on cadres of the Army, repressive apparatus, and special services who were subject to "iron" discipline. [passage omitted]

So "Prussian" socialism is disappearing, the GDR is disappearing, the reasons for the discontent among the people's masses are being eliminated. But is this enough to build a new society?

The term of office of the De Maiziere government is expiring. He and his comrades will scarcely obtain high posts in a united Germany. Bonn believes that they have been "talkative and industrious," but nevertheless they are nonprofessionals.

What else will disappear? The People's Chamber and many institutions and the "compasses" on the state tricolor. The National People's Army will be almost halved. But Eastern passports will continue to exist for a while. The little Trabant cars, commonly known as "Trabis," will remain—an object of concern among FRG residents because of their noxious exhaust gases. Traffic speeds along the highways of the former GDR will increase, but the common file on offenders in Flensburg where all traffic violations are recorded will remain.

Industrialists will be able to invest freely in the Eastern part of Germany, but the transition to the market, despite German consistency and thoroughness, will yield returns only in a few years' time. The real difficulties will begin with the drawing up of a common budget. And property questions will probably be the most acute.

Things appear simpler with regard to the grinding-in of management structures. The FRG functionaries' union is promising to help form an effective administration on the territory of the former GDR over the course of a year. R. von Weiszaecker will remain the head of state until the next presidential election, and H. Kohl will remain chancellor until December's Bundestag elections, and probably also after them.

Nevertheless, after unification (the question of the country's name will be finally decided by the pan-German parliament) there will be substantial changes in the political life of the present Federal Republic. They will stem from the mass of many millions of voters with different political convictions (despite the similarity in party names) and with their own ideas on social justice (these are more radical in the GDR).

The two major political parties—the Social Democratic Party and the Christian Democratic Union—will have to "move to the left." This move is already under way, finding expression in the abandonment of certain old dogmas, in greater tolerance of political opponents and readiness for compromise, and in a new understanding of the tasks of a democratic society.

The shift of the Social Democratic Party and Christian Democratic Union to the left will affect the economic and social setup while at the same time promoting the development of political activeness in the center, where the liberals will gain additional opportunities. Curiously, the first people to reach the conclusion regarding this change in the political spectrum in a united Germany were not political scientists but economists. The Institute of the German Economy in Koeln published a whole analysis paper on this topic.

Ideological conflicts will probably take place not between political parties but inside them, in view of the merger of Eastern and Western organizations. Market and parliamentary democratic ideas will come into conflict with ideas of democratic socialism, supporters of which are to be found by no means only in the ranks of the Party of Democratic Socialism (incidentally, according to poll results, the party still has quite a good chance of remaining in the pan-German parliament), but also in other left-wing political groupings. Many of them are gambling on the effectiveness of the social democratic movement in Germany. Political scientists are also noting certain public interest in the ideas of Christian socialism. In this respect it is clearly too soon to bid a final farewell to socialism in Germany.

On 3 October the absurd abbreviation FRGDR, with a big "G" in the middle, which has appeared in certain newspapers—a symbol of the fusion of the two German republics—will disappear. One of those republics has proved more viable and is voluntarily assuming responsibility for the security and well-being of 16 million new fellow citizens. What next, Germany?

Talks Held on Future Relations With GDR

LD3008182490 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—In the run-up to the unification of the two Germanys, the Soviet side is holding consultations on prospects for cooperation in the economy, industry, science and technology, as well as the succession of a united Germany to the obligations taken by the GDR as regards foreign economic cooperation with the Soviet Union.

In this context the USSR Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations has announced that, in accordance with the agreement on economic links between the USSR and the GDR, signed in July, participants in foreign economic links will switch over to hard currency payments, starting from January 1, 1991, on the entire range of trade and economic relations. Contracts on exports and imports of goods and services will be concluded in current world prices by sides, provided they have their own export resources, currency and credit facilities.

Participants in foreign economic links, organisations and agencies of the USSR and the GDR, which have agreements on specialisation and co-production, scientific and technological cooperation extending beyond 1990, have been recommended to consider the expediency of extending these agreements and to make relevant amendments, taking account of changing conditions.

Polish Leader Regrets Desecration of Graves

PM3108134190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Aug 90 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Censurable"]

[Text] Warsaw, 29 Aug—The president of Poland, as a soldier and participant in World War II, cherishes the memory of his comrades-in-arms who gave their lives for the homeland and the allies who fell on Polish soil fighting to liberate the country from Hitler's occupation.

This is stressed in a statement issued here today by the press spokesman for the head of the Polish state—W.

Jaruzelski—in connection with the USSR Foreign Ministry memorandum of 24 August and the letter by Marshal of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov, chairman of the All-Union Council of Veterans of War, Labor, and the Armed Forces. Both documents express concern at cases of destruction of memorials to Soviet Army soldiers in Poland.

The president receives with sincere distress the information that memorials to Soviet Army soldiers are quite often being destroyed and headstones and even mortal remains removed in an unhealthy, perfervid atmosphere devoid of elementary political standards, the statement says. This is all the more distressing since it is taking place at a time when perestroyka in the USSR is facilitating the process whereby it is possible through joint efforts to clear up painful problems and fill in so-called blanks.

The president knows that this kind of censurable practice runs counter to the centuries-old Polish tradition of respect for the dead. It arouses the indignation and disgust of the overwhelming majority of Polish society.

Bulgarian Socialists Condemn 26 Aug Events

90P50077 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
30 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

[Article by PRAVDA correspondent L. Zhmyrev: "Parliament Against Violence"]

[Text] Sofia, 29. Wherever you go in Sofia, you can see one picture everywhere. At open windows of houses, at automobile doors, around portable transistor radios knots of people are gathered, in order to hear the parliamentary debates on the destruction and fire at the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] Supreme Soviet building.

The speech of BSP leader A. Lilov was greeted with strong approval by the people gathered at the Supreme People's Assembly. He presented the declaration of the parliamentary group of the Bulgarian Socialist Party. It said that the fire and dstruction of the party building is a direct threat fo the current democratic process. Common efforts are needed to nip this violence in the bud. An act of the grossest extremism and barbarity has been written in the new political history of the country, an act which can lead Bulgaria to civil war and all the ensuing consequences.

This action can only be that of the opponents of the democratic process and of the peaceful changeover to democracy. These dangrous extreme right-wing reactionary forces in Bulgaria represent, in their essence, a rebirth of neofacism. We say a decisive "no" to confrontation and political tension. With the aid of hundreds of thousands of socialists in Bulgaria and nearly three million voters we will defend our security, our rights, and our partics and their members, A. Lilov stated further.

Teh BSP declaration also directed the attention of the Supreme People's Assembly, the public, and the people to the attempts by the opposition press to formulate a version of events stating that the BSP itself set fire to its bulding. Such insinuations aim to obscure the truth. The BSP rejects them with profound anger and indignation.

The Bulgarian Socialist Party believes that the common sense of the people is a reliable barrier on the path of political extremism and a guarantee of civil peace. The party maintains its faith in a dialog between political forces, in civil peace, and in a peaceful changeover to democracy. The BSP will continue to make its contribution to the construction of a free, just, and democratic society in Bulgaria. These concluding words of the declaration were met with a standing ovation.

The session of parliament is continuing, and in society passions continue to run high over the still unclear circumstances of the destruction and fire at the party building. The statement of the presidential spokesman has been published, which reports the actions of Zh. Zhelev during the events on the evenings of 26 and 27 August. The statement points out, in particular, that the organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the special troop battalions did not fulfill the specific instructions of the president for quelling the disorders.

The newspapers are carrying materials, photos, and reports which shed additional light on the events of that night. Their evaluation will be given in parliament after the investigation is concluded.

Bulgarian Leader Thanks Gorbachev For Wishes

PM3108141190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
30 Aug 90 Second Edition p 2

[Message by Bulgaria's President Zhelev to President Gorbachev]

[Text] To Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, President of the USSR

I cordially thank you for your congratulations and good wishes on my election as president of Bulgaria.

I fully share the hope you expressed that the traditionally good relations between our countries and peoples will continue to develop fruitfully. As president of Bulgaria I will be making efforts to deepen them on the basis of mutual understanding, equality, and mutual benefit in harmony with the processes of democratization taking place in our friendly countries.

(Signed) Zh. Zhelev

President of Bulgaria

CSFR, RSFSR Officials Discuss Trade Ties

LD3008145490 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2016 GMT 29 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Vitaliy Yaroshevskiy]

[Text] Prague, 30 Aug [date as received] (TASS)—Vaclav Vales, deputy chairman of the CSFR Government, received Gennadiy Filshin, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation on Wednesday. The Russian Federation [RSFSR] representative told him in detail about preparations for the economic reform in the republic, and about the delimitation of powers between the RSFSR and the Union.

The sides discussed the fundamental principles of economic and trade relations between the CSFR and the RSFSR in the forthcoming period. They are set down in the memorandum which was signed on the results of the meeting. Vaclav Vales told a CTK correspondent that the document promises benefits to both sides. It gives Czechoslovakia the opportunity to receive the necessary volumes of raw materials in exchange for ready-made products, and to prepare for the implementation of the reform of the Czechoslovak economy without appreciable shocks.

West Europe

Foreign Ministry Welcomes German Army Cuts

LD3108095290 Moscow TASS in English 0929 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 31 TASS—The following official statement by a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman was issued here today:

"Moscow has taken a note of identical statements by Lothar de Maiziere and Hans-Dietrich Genscher at the Vienna talks full-scale meeting on August 30, formulating the commitment by the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) to cut the armed forces of a united Germany, including the Army, the Air Force and the Navy, to 370,000 officers and men.

"These statements are welcomed here as forming the basis of an obligation, to be assumed by the GDR and the FRG on behalf of the future united German state as part of a final German settlement, to set a limit on the numerical strength of the German Armed Forces."

Finns Refuse To Service Nuclear-Powered Ship

PM3008150190 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 29 Aug 90 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Finland: Maintenance Refused"]

[Text] The Finnish Ministry of Trade and Industry has not allowed preventive maintenance work to be carried out on the Soviet nuclear-powered icebreaker Vaygach at the Vuosaari Shipyard, which belongs to the Finnish shipbuilding firm Masa Yards. This was reported in the newspaper KANSAN UUTISET.

The nuclear-powered icebreaker Vaygach, like the Taymir before it, was built at the shipyard of Finland's Wartsila Meriteollisuus company and handed over to the Soviet customer in the spring of last year. The nuclear reactors were later fitted on both icebreakers in Leningrad.

As Sakari Immonen, senior inspector of the ministry's power industry department, stressed in the newspaper, the decision taken by the Finnish authorities is bound up with the fact that the nuclear reactor protection equipment on the Soviet icebreaker does not meet the radiation safety requirements laid down by Finnish legislation. These requirements, the inspector explained, coincide in principle with those currently operating at Finnish nuclear electric power stations.

Latvian Foreign Minister Hails Ties With Danes

LD3008224590 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1715 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Kiselev]

[Text] Copenhagen, 30 Aug (TASS)—A news conference held here today by J. Jurkans, Latvia's foreign minister, was devoted to the results of his working visit to Denmark. Denmark, he stressed actively supports the Baltic peoples' desire to restore their independence. A Danish cultural center, which in the minister's opinion will promote the development of all-round Danish-Latvian ties, was opened in Riga very recently.

J. Jurkans noted that the subject of the restoration of Latvia's international status, which existed until the World War II, was discussed widely in his talks with Danish representatives. After the end of the war two problems remained, the minister pointed out. The first was the division of Germany, which is being resolved happily, and the second is the fact that formerly independent countries remained within the USSR. He criticized the view, widespread in the West, that the Baltic question is "the USSR's internal affair." The process going on in the Baltic can be slowed down, J. Jurkans stated, but it cannot be stopped.

The minister said that significant attention was also paid during the talks to discussion of the prospects for the participation of the Baltic countries in the CSCE process and, in particular, in the meetings coming up soon within the framework of the pan-European process.

One of Latvia's difficult problems, J. Jurkans noted, is relations with the KGB and the Soviet Armed Forces. However, he believes that the Latvians will be able to take into account many of the Soviet Union's security interests in the course of negotiations with the central

authorities. At the same time, it was stressed that the Balts' ideal is a demilitarization of the region, and they will strive for this.

The minister also pointed out that the establishment of a number of joint Danish-Latvian enterprises was discussed during his stay in Copenhagen.

Ukrainian Minister Ends Hungarian Visit

LD3008103690 Kiev International Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] Anatoliy Zlenko, minister of external affairs of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, completed his official visit to Hungary.

The talks he was involved in covered a wide range of issues on strengthening all-round cooperation between Ukraine and Hungary.

Latin America & Caribbean

Castro Urged To 'Take a Step' Toward U.S.

PM3008133590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 6

[Aleksandr Kuryshev letter carried in "International Departments Mailbag" feature: "Some Advice to Fidel Castro Ruz"]

[Text] Dear Fidel! I was about 10 years old when you came to Tashkent. We assembled and greeted you with little flags. That meeting is engraved on my memory. Later on I read the little book about Che Guevara; both of you became a model of struggle and steadfastness to me.

Much water has flowed under the bridge since then, much has changed in the world. I know that sensation-seekers are trying to cast suspicion on the Cuban revolution. But you must know that the Soviet people support Cuba and will not cast it to the whim of fate. I only ask you to understand that the transition from an administrative leadership to people's self-government is an objective process and a guarantee against the desocialization of society. One cannot rely on the next leader having the wisdom of Solomon and not saddling society with his mistakes. Pluralism is needed. The whole purpose of the Soviets is to see that truth emerges in arguments. This in no way signifies confrontation. It is important to understand the other person and compare his position with one's own.

In our country we are now trying to wake the sleeping kingdom of indifference and egoism, tied down by "barracks socialism." Socialism has led to people's not giving a damn about anything, not even about trouble knocking on the door. And now the whole planet has troubles. It is precisely for this reason that, overcoming ossified dogmas and mistakes, we have moved toward the whole world and also toward a compromise—military, ecological, and moral—understanding that without it civilization will perish. This does not mean that we are foisting our way of life on others, including small states. We cannot wait for the advent of universal socialism; the Earth, nature, and people must be saved now. It seems to me that not only strength is needed here, but also political flexibility. This is in no way a betrayal of principles and is not cowardice. The world is changing, and we must change with it.

Perhaps you too will try to throw off the taint of former conflicts (I know: You didn't start it) and take just a step toward the people of the United States? Even if it is a considered, careful, and measured one. Detente cannot be one-sided. Patience must be learned, and not only politicians but also peoples are already beginning to understand this. Although the recognition in peoples who have known the diktat of the strong is not developing as dynamically as desired.

It is probably not easy for you, standing your ground in the struggle with a strong adversary, to listen to criticisms leveled at you, let alone accusations. But it is necessary, evidently, to listen to the voices of friends and objective people; otherwise you may lag behind the times.

Forgive me for making so bold as to give you advice. Again I mentally shake your hand and wish you good health, and you and your people success. I hope for understanding.

I remain yours,

(Signed) Aleksandr Kuryshev
Tashkent

Nicaraguan Leader Favors Continued Good Ties

LD3008123790 Moscow TASS in English 1156 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Igor Pshenichnikov]

[Text] Managua August 30 TASS—President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro of Nicaragua said that her government "seeks to maintain relations based on friendship and non-interference with all countries, especially the Soviet Union.

In a TASS interview she emphasised that she shared the Soviet leadership's position on many issues. "I am satisfied that we are united by democratic thinking, the desire to change our peoples' minds and reduce armaments," Chamorro said.

Chamorro stressed that she followed with great interest current processes in the Soviet Union. She said that due to the sweeping changes taken place in the USSR, the emergence of contradictions and difficulties was to be expected. She expressed confidence that the Soviet people would come to grips with their problems.

Chamorro touched upon her previously expressed intention to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union. Chamorro said she wanted to meet President Mikhail Gorbachev, "conduct talks and make relations between the two countries closer."

Chamorro said Nicaragua was interested in continued Soviet economic aid. "Possibly, the size of this aid will not be the same as previously, but Nicaragua continues to need oil supplies from the Soviet Union, to maintain the large stock of Soviet-made equipment in the country and other kinds of aid from the Soviet Union.

Chamorro favoured friendly relations between her country and the United States, based on mutual respect and non-interference. She assessed as positive the United States' lifting of the trade embargo on Nicaragua.

On internal issues, Chamorro said that during the first months in office, she had delivered on her main election promises: The war ended in Nicaragua, the mandatory military service was abrogated, the strength of the Armed Forces was reduced and the national reconciliation policy is gaining momentum.

"I am not encountering difficulties in the administration of the state, because I am surrounded by friends who work in the name of the homeland. I feel very confident, and I am convinced that we are on the right path," Chamorro said.

Guatemalan Vice-President on Resumption of Ties

LD3108082390 Moscow TASS in English 0717 GMT 31 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Igor Pshenichnikov]

[Text] Managua August 31 TASS—There are no obstacles to a resumption of diplomatic relations between Guatemala and the Soviet Union, visiting Guatemalan Vice-President Roberto Carpio said here.

Speaking in a TASS interview, he said that the future Guatemalan Government, which will come to office after this November's general elections, will definitely study the issue and "have more possibilities to form relations with the USSR."

He said that Soviet perestroyka has changed the mentality of the entire world and that his country seeks to maintain relations with all nations.

Diplomatic relations between Guatemala and the USSR were formally established in 1945 but have not been maintained for a long time.

Political & Social

Joint Presidential, Federation Council Meets

LD3008175190 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1642 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow, 30 Aug (TASS)—A joint session of the Council of the Federation and the Presidential Council of the USSR took place today chaired by USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Representatives of the central and republican governments, of all autonomous formations, trade unions, the USSR Academy of Sciences, and also a delegation of workers were invited to the joint session.

A broad range of problems, economic policy, the situation in the Union, the optimum ways of society's stabilization, and its entrance into the market is being discussed at the session. S. Shatalin and Yu. Maslyukov, members of the Presidential Council, delivered reports.

Addresses by N. Nazarbayev, K. Makhkamov, Yu. Osipyan, M. Godmanis, G. Gumbaridze, N. Pastukhov, N. Dementey, L. Kravchuk, A. Tizyakov, G. Yavlinskiy, A. Mutalibov, V. Yakovlev, A. Dzhumagulov, B. Yeltsin, I. Chebuk, G. Kolbin, A. Yurenkov, A. Yakovlev, and V. Gerashchenko were heard.

The session will continue tomorrow.

Gorbachev Addresses Session

LD3008192990 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Report by correspondent V. Stepanyuk from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today the latest joint session of the Council of the Federation and the Presidential Council of the USSR has been taking place in the Kremlin under the chairmanship of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. It was not completely normal as regards format. It was significantly extended. Representatives of the central and republican governments, all the autonomous formations, trade unions, the USSR Academy of Sciences, and workers' delegations were invited to the session. The chairmen of the committees and commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet also participated in its work. A wide range of problems was discussed: economic policy, the situation in the Union, and optimum ways of stabilizing our society and taking it into a market economy.

Opening the session, the USSR president said among other things:

[Gorbachev] Comrades, today's session of the Council of the Federation and the Presidential Council, a joint session, is dictated by the present situation within society. We can say that perestroyka has entered a phase of serious trials. We do not have the right to linger. We simply do not have the time for that. But at the same time, as never before and in so far as we are facing major problems, in order to make major decisions we need comprehensive analysis, well-considered and balanced measures, and the maximum—I stress—coordination of actions.

We can only welcome the adoption by the Union republics of declarations of sovereignty, for this process of political transformations within the framework of perestroyka is a process of profound reformation of our multiethnic state. This is a great achievement of perestroyka and a serious prerequisite for strengthening and consolidating the Union of sovereign states, the cooperation and friendship of our peoples.

But these processes dictated by life itself, which on the whole have objectively built up and which are positive, are accompanied in a number of cases by destructive actions which can lead to, and which in certain places have already led to complications and disruption of the vital activity of the state organism which is already functioning, let us say, with great interruptions and tension.

By the same token, disregard for the law is being cultivated in society. This is all very serious. The person who today, for instance, does not take account of the Union law and the USSR Constitution, may tomorrow be confronted by cases of disregard for his own law.

All of us must be aware that if we do not resolutely break off all these negative trends, they may result in the disintegration of the economy, in the serious weakening of our statehood, and by the same token they will as it were nudge the country toward the state of uncontrolled spontaneity.

I believe this may be advantageous to some, but it is those people whose viewpoint and stance we must decisively reject. But this hits the people. It can deal a blow against the political course of perestroyka, and for this reason we must draw for ourselves the necessary conclusions from this. In a word, comrades, the situation is highly complex and demands responsible decisions.

The main question is whether there is a way out of the present acute and dangerous state, a state of crisis, along the path of perestroyka and the continuation of the reforms and the renewal of society; or must we renounce our political course? I have to say: This is no rhetorical question. In society there is no... [Gorbachev changes thought] No, the question does arise of whether the present leadership has not dragged the country into yet another ruinous experiment through perestroyka. The first signs of nostalgia for the times of stagnation and even for the days of Stalinism have appeared. With respect to all this I would not allow simplistic judgments and errors; a very serious political analysis is required here. We must see the roots of what is happening. This is the most important thing in politics and for politicians.

All that is serious, and all kinds of opposition and also antiperestroyka and reactionary forces may play and are

already trying to play upon people's growing dissatisfaction, dissatisfaction with conditions of present life.

Comrades, we cannot allow the revolutionary transformations go beyond the framework of the law, to proceed without reform. We are fully justified in calling perestroyka a revolution. But it is a peaceful revolution, carried out within the framework of the law through a series of profound reforms and structural reforms. It is the greatest achievement of perestroyka that in this huge country with a complex history and with the current problems, these transformations on the whole are proceeding so far within peaceful frameworks via reform. That must be preserved.

Does the present leadership of the country, of the republics, do all of us have something to propose to society concerning a way out of this acute situation on the paths of perestroyka? My analysis, based upon numerous competent evaluations of scientists, specialists, political and state figures—evaluations which have been formed in the public opinion of the country—allows a positive reply to be given to that question. There is still a real chance to take the situation in hand, to introduce into both policy and into practical activity substantial corrections which have come to a head.

Gorbachev Decrees Dismissal of Deputy Premier

LD3008174390 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1655 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow, 30 Aug (TASS)—A decree by the USSR president was circulated today. The full text of it is given below:

Decree of the USSR president on the responsibility of officials for the unsatisfactory state of the supply of tobacco products to the population.

A tense situation with regard to tobacco products has arisen in the country. In many regions they have disappeared from sale, giving rise to the just indignation of the population. Although the prospect of difficulties was sufficiently evident last year, the USSR Council of Ministers State Commission on Food and Purchases and also the Councils of Ministers of Union republics and their agro-industrial bodies have displayed irresponsibility and a lack of concern and have not taken the necessary measures in timely fashion to resolve questions concerning millions of people.

In connection with this I decree:

1. That Comrade Nikitin, Vladilen Valentinovich, be released from the office of first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers State Commission for Food and Purchases for failing to take measures to prevent a reduction in the production of tobacco and for the disruption that has been allowed to take place in the work of the tobacco industry which have led to interruptions in the supply of tobacco products to many regions of the country and to enforced above-plan expenditure of currency; that the decision on the release of Comrade Nikitin, V.V., be submitted to the USSR Supreme Soviet for confirmation.

2. That the USSR Council of Ministers and the top state leaders of the Union republics be recommended to examine issues connected with the responsibility of specific workers for the disruption of the production and trade in tobacco products.

3. That the USSR Council of Ministers, jointly with the governments of the Union republics, urgently take measures to correct the situation, including the introduction of new procurement prices for tobacco from 1 October of this year and to inform the public about this.

[Signed] President of the USSR M. Gorbachev, Moscow, Kremlin
[Dated] 30 August 1990

Work Performance of Ryzhkov, Ministries Scored

90UN2674A Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 Aug 90 p 2

[Article by A. Yablokov, USSR people's deputy and deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Committee for Questions of Ecology and Efficient Utilization of Natural Resources: "We Have Not Passed the Test of Power"]

[Text] Recently I had to start a special file for angry letters addressed to me. The accusations of being cowardly, mercenary, and a scoundrel were not even the strongest ones. I am sure that other people's deputies receive such letters as well. But the most unpleasant thing is that their authors have every reason to be dissatisfied with our activity. It would seem that we USSR people's deputies, the highest representatives of the people's power, are most often powerless to change the course of the administrative-command machine that has developed and been adjusted over the decades. Although we also understand that this machine is dragging the country along the road to ruin....

At the end of last year the Supreme Soviet adopted a decree concerning reprofiling plants for producing BVK [protein and vitamin supplement]. But two deputy chairmen of the country's Council of Ministers, instead of organizing the implementation of this decree, appealed to the chairman of the Supreme Soviet to... abolish it! And the appeal on behalf of the committee for questions of ecology to the chairmen of the parliament chambers to raise the issue of whether or not V.K. Gusev and V.V. Nikitin are qualified to hold their jobs since, judging from this act, they do not understand the constitutional rights of legislative and executive power has been shelved.

The Supreme Soviet prohibits the felling of public forests. The country's Ministry of the Timber Industry is attacking it with threats of halting the production of

pencils. But the expert deputy commission shows that the cedar we receive (as additional felling) is sufficient not only to preserve but also to increase the production of wood for pencils! And it discovered cases of illegal sale of cedar abroad—under the pretense that it is not valuable wood—by this same Ministry of the Timber Industry.

In February the USSR Council of Ministers adopted Decree No. 110, one of the points of which is that the closing of Union enterprises that threaten the safety of the population is allowed only with the permission of the government itself. But this decision is simply illegal and it contradicts at least two laws of the USSR.

When we learned about this decree we sent N.I. Ryzhkov a message. There was no answer. We wrote again and again. Silence. Tired of waiting, our committee went to the Constitutional Oversight Committee, but it has been three months and we have not received an answer from there either.

Why is the chairman of the Council of Ministers not afraid to violate the law and the Constitution? Perhaps it seems to the Council of Ministers that ecological issues are not as pressing today, and we can be put off and should not be allowed such liberties in major areas? We shall see.

What is more important than the budget? Our Council of Ministers is essentially the complete master here and is even in charge of the machine that prints the bank notes; the latter circumstance, as we see, creates an insurmountable temptation to use the simplest "solution" to financial problems—through printing 10 ruble [R] notes.

Eight days after the Supreme Soviet approved the budget for 1990, the Council of Ministers suddenly allotted about R150 million for the development of the Tyumen oil and gas complexes. But these expenses were not in the budget that was approved! Just as the R40 billion for writing off debts to the sovkhozes [state farms] and kolkhozes [collective farms] were not.

And yet the deputies have repeatedly stated that the budget must not get out of control—they have said this both at the congress and in the sessions. Everything boils down to the unwillingness of the leaders of the Supreme Soviet to organize this control.

The parliaments of most countries work with the budget all year long. This is the only way it is really possible to control the expenditures of the executive power. This year we are supposed to repeated last year's story: to consider and approve the budget in a little more than a month.

It would be naive to think that the powerlessness of the deputies, committees, and commissions of the Supreme Soviet are accidental. A weak legislative power is simply necessary for the preservation of the command-administrative system of management.

But the saddest thing today is that frequently the bastions of resistance are being built... within the Supreme Soviet—for the protection of group and party interests. When considering the question of cleaning up after the Chernobyl disaster several deputies demanded that a special commission be created for investigating the actions of the highest officials during and after the accident. A.I. Lukyanov suggested that this point not be included in the decree but that several committees and commissions be instructed to prepare the question for approval in the Supreme Soviet. There were quite a few discussions about this with Lukyanov at that time. As a result, up to this day—four months later!—no commission has been established.

Enough has been said to come to a major conclusion: The USSR people's deputies, the committees and commissions of the Supreme Soviet, and the Supreme Soviet as a whole do not have the complete legislative power that is delegated to them by the voters and is established in the USSR Constitution. In the first place, this is because of the strong resistance from the existing central executive power. In the second place—and this, in my opinion, has been given an unjustifiably small amount of attention until recently—it is because of the single-party leadership of the Supreme Soviet and hence the inevitability of placing group interests over state interests.

So are the legislators weak and the executives strong?

There are several answers to the question of why so little has improved in the lives of the majority of people as a result of perestroyka that has been main ones is the loss of confidence in the authorities.

Polls show that even before N.I. Ryzhkov's May report about the transition to a market economy less than 30 percent trusted the Council of Ministers. Sociologists assert that normal administration of the economy is impossible with such a low level of confidence. Actually we can feel this every day.

At the everyday level each of us knows that confidence is lost either when promises are not kept or when it is learned that a person is not telling the truth.

Not a single one of the decrees of the USSR Council of Ministers on ecological problems adopted during the years of perestroyka has been fulfilled.

—1986. The diversion of the northern rivers was stopped but the construction of the Volga-Chorgay and Volga-Don-2 canals, which were elements of this project, was continued.

—1987. The decree on the development in 1988 of the state long-term program for protection of the environment and efficient utilization of natural resources does not exist to this day....

The ecology is no exception here. The same thing is true in the areas of science and culture and public health. A "hot" example is the failure to fulfill last year's decree of the Council of Ministers adopted at the demand of the

striking miners. Hence the political warning strike in July and the demand for the retirement of the government.

Many people undoubtedly know about one unfulfilled promise. N.I. Ryzhkov's public promise to retire if the program he presented in December of last year to the Second USSR Congress of People's Deputies for improving the economy was useless. That is was useless is a fact that is now obvious not only to those 600 people's deputies who voted against it at that time. And the May program for accelerated transition to a market economy, as everyone can now see, was also useless!

Speaking on 24 May in the USSR Supreme Soviet, N.I. Ryzhkov said: "...We have created no economic blockade of Lithuania.... Only oil and some gas are not being delivered to Lithuania." But here is an excerpt from a telegram from the Ministry of Railways of 19 April: "Stop sending certain kinds of raw material and products on the list (I counted a total of 52 items on the list) to enterprises and organizations located on the territory of the Lithuania SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic]: steel... iron... pipes... plastics... rubber... tires and rubber industrial items... timber materials... synthetic and artificial fibers, motor vehicles... tractors, bulldozers, diesels... gantry cranes, raw sugar, coffee... wall paper, vegetable oil.... Exempt the dispatching enterprises from the payment of fines for failure to fulfill the plans for sending these cargoes...."

The deception of the people at Chernobyl was immense in scale and tragic in its consequences. It is now quite clear that, although they had completely enough information about the scale and regions affected by radiation in the Ukraine, Belorussia, and the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic], certain of the country's leaders did not tell the people the truth. Things reached a point where the USSR Ministry of Public Health in 1988 (!) issued a secret order prohibiting the establishment of a connection between disease and radiation received as a result of the Chernobyl disaster....

Half-truths or out-and-out lies are apparently characteristic of many, both among themselves and in relations with society. The Ministry of Power and Electrification gave us a scare about a shortage of heat and energy as a result of the refusal of the Moscow Soviet to build the Severnaya thermal electric power plant even though the shortage of heat in Moscow has always been associated not with a shortage of capacities but with breakdowns and the generally poor operation of existing thermal electric power plants. The unforgettable USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources repeatedly lied about the effectiveness of irrigation in the country. And what about the tight-rope walking our high officials perform with the figures about our military expenditures? And the words of the USSR Ministry of the Medical and Biological Industry about the harmlessness of protein and vitamin concentrates? Or the concealment of information regarding the harm caused to nature by the petroleum and gas ministries in the north, the Far East, and the Caspian area? And the deliberate underrating by the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of the Timber Industry, and other ministries of the effects of their enterprises on the health of the population? The State Agro-Industrial Committee and its successors "make mistakes" about the sizes of the areas of cultivated land: Several years ago as a result of observations from space we learned about the immense scale of illegal plowing and the areas of excessive grazing in a number of regions of the country....

Examples of government lies are so numerous that we have somehow become accustomed to them and tolerate them.

The lack of confidence in authority is known to determine the ineffectiveness of any attempts, even the best substantiated ones, on the part of this authority to change things for the better.

Girenko Discuses Republic Nationalities Issue

PM3008213790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 90 First Edition p 2

[Interview with CPSU Central Committee Secretary A. Girenko conducted by correspondent Yu. Glebov; place and date not given; under the "Topical Interview" rubric: "Under the Roof of Your House"]

[Text] The latest session of the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat examined the question of measures in fulfillment of the 28th CPSU Congress Resolution "A Democratic Nationalities Policy Is the Way to Voluntary Union, Peace, and Consensus Among the Peoples." What work, then, have Communists succeeded in carrying out in this field and where have the bottlenecks occurred? CPSU Central Committee Secretary A. Girenko talked about this to your PRAVDA correspondent.

[Glebov] Andrey Nikolayevich, we live at a difficult time of interethnic conflicts and catastrophes which leave bloody traces on our land and in our hearts. The theater of combat operations is expanding. And it is clearly no accident that the problem of national relations was one of the first questions discussed by the new Central Committee Secretariat.

[Girenko] The whole atmosphere in the country on the eve of the congress and the speeches of the delegates there confirmed yet again that ethnic relations predetermine in many respects the results of the party's whole work of implementing its adopted course of perestroyka. That is why this most acute current problem was reflected in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the congress, the Program Statement, the party Statutes, and the relevant resolution. We are sometimes reproached for the fact that the congress did not draw up a clear-cut stance here. That is not so. There is a stance. But do not confuse it with the instructions which out of habit everyone at local level still waits for. Having

defined Communists' attitude to the problem as a whole, the congress called for specific solutions to the problem in specific situations.

The Secretariat constantly keeps problems of national relations within its sights and analyzes them, particularly as even since the party congress ethnically-based conflicts have, as you have rightly observed, worsened still further in individual regions.

There has been a further spread of "separatist" feelings which have been reflected in the legislative acts passed by certain Union republic supreme soviets, and the dangerous illusion that urgent political, economic, and social problems can be solved only by isolation.

Many party committtees, and I make no exception for the CPSU Central Committee, have failed to fully assess the situation and restructure their work in line with it or find and make effective use of ways and means of resolving conflicts specific to the national regions. There has been lack of resolution and confusion and sometimes a retreat from positions of principle, as has occurred in the activity of the Armenian Communist Party Central Commitee. What did this bring? Republic authorities were forced to introduce a state of emergency and to recognize, alas belatedly, the need to disarm armed bandit formations immediately.

The Secretariat persistently recommends to party committees that they engage in dialogue with national public movements on the widest range of issues. It is not unimportant either, I think, for personal contacts to be maintained among party leaders of neighboring republics, krays, and oblasts.

[Glebov] Yes, but it seems to me that while pressing ahead it should be remembered that hasty, ill-considered steps can only do harm. How is the work of preparing the new Union treaty progressing?

[Girenko] As of now the majority of Union republic supreme soviets have adopted declarations or other legislative acts on state sovereignty. Similar documents have been prepared or are being prepared in the Tatar, Bashkir, Yakut, Karelian, Mary, and Komi ASSR's [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republics]. This is a natural process generated by perestroyka and the growth of national self-awareness of the peoples. But we cannot adopt a blanket approach to it. It is impossible not to see that many provisions of the declarations, laws, and acts on independence and state autonomy undermine the pivotal idea of the federation's renewal: Strong republics mean a strong Union.

The legislative activity of Union republic supreme soviets affecting the sphere of interethnic realtions is causing serious alarm. Many provisions of laws on language, citizenship, and ownership—as sociological research and experience of contact with people have shown—infringe the interests, rights, and dignity of citizens of nonindigenous nationality.

Take for example the proclamation of the Gagauz Republic and its separation from Moldova. One cannot fail to see, of course, that such a turn of events was provoked in many respects by the decision of the republic parliament. The judgment in the conclusion of the Moldova SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet standing commissions that "...the Gagauz and other ethnic groups living in the Moldova SSR on the national territory of the Moldavians do not have their own national territories in the Moldova SSR" was taken as demeaning the national dignity of the Gagauz. However, answering ultimatum by ultimatum leads to deadlock too.

[Glebov] And yet the acts adopted are now a political reality. How are Union republic Communist Parties to work in such a situation? What should their stance be?

[Girenko] The current situation makes coordination of the positions of Union republic Communist Party Central Committees, the exchange of opinions on ways and means of carrying out party political work, and the exclusion of all arrogance more essential than ever before.

In analyzing the emergence and development of interethnic conflicts you see time and time again the need for closer coordination of the efforts of party and soviet organs of neighboring republics, krays, and oblasts to resolve national clashes and problems which are common to peoples of different nationalities.

[Glebov] Refugees are a lamentable feature of our reality. The processes of migration caused by national minorities being forced out of Union republics are assuming dangerous proportions....

[Girenko] The need to defend the constitutional rights of that category of citizens is obvious. And I consider invalid the opinion that adopting a special law on refugees will produce artificial migration. On the contrary, a clear and reliable mechanism of damage compensation paid for by the republics where they previously lived could become a factor in blunting the acuteness with which national conflicts manifest themselves. In this regard the question of submitting for examination by the USSR Supreme Soviet—by way of legislative initiative—a draft law protecting the constitutional rights of citizens forced to leave their places of permanent residence was raised at the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat session.

I would also consider it possible for Union republic Communist Party Central Committees to put forward the initiative of holding zonal congresses of representatives of the peoples living in the regions. A congress of USSR peoples could be the final stage of the work.

I would like to stress in particular the responsibility of the mass media for objective coverage of national problems. Any inexactitude or hushing up of events, let alone a one-sided approach, produces an extremely painful

reaction and sometimes sparks the situation into crisis. This also concerns PRAVDA.

You will remember that in Yuriy Antov's song there are the words "Under the roof of your home...." Under the roof of our home may there always reign peace and concord.

Ministry Reports on 30 Aug Hijack Attempts

LD3108121790 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 31 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Borisov]

[Text] Moscow August 31 TASS—Resolute actions by pilots and passengers foiled two attempted hijacks in central Russia on Thursday [30 August] Interior Ministry officials told TASS today.

During the first incident, at 1515 Moscow time, a drunken passenger wielding a knife and a dummy handgun on an Aeroflot flight from Voronezh to Oryol entered the crew cabin soon after take-off from Livny, where the Antonov-2 had made a stop-over.

He demanded to return from Voronezh but was overpowered by crew members and some passengers. The plane landed at Livny where the criminal was turned over to police. The unsuccessful hijacker—identified by Interior Ministry officials to TASS only by his family name, Panteleyev—turned out to be a 22-year-old worker from the Livny-based Prompribor industrial instrument-making factory.

He said he had wanted to fly to Afghanistan from Voronezh. An investigation is under way.

In the other incident at 2320, a passenger on an Aeroflot flight from Moscow to Voronezh stopped an air hostess as the Yakovlev-42 approached its destination and prepared to land. He demanded to fly to West Germany.

The criminal was arrested five minutes after the plane landed in Voronezh. No weapons were found on him or in his luggage. The man was identified only as Amitsaryan, 20 years old and unemployed. An investigation is under way in that case as well.

Discourtesy Toward Raisa Gorbacheva Recalled

PM3008133390 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Aug 90 Second Edition p 4

[Article by Marlen Kryukov on the "Discussion Sheet 62" page under the "Lessons in Morality" rubric: "Between Us Chaps"]

[Excerpts] Rostov-na-Donu—[passage omitted] It is bad when people behave rudely toward a man. But it is even worse when they forget that the person before them is a woman. [passage omitted]

Were there really instances of disrespect toward women at the 28th CPSU Congress? Regrettably, there were. There also the men were not bothered about chivalry. That gave M. Kalbekova, head of department at the Abakanskiy state pedagogical institute, an opportunity to criticize the male congress delegates: As soon as a woman appears on the congress rostrum they think that she isn't worth listening to and that they can start talking.

Or take the episode at the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Congress of People's Deputies concerning the transmission of B. Yeltsin's speech on Central Television. He probably could have reacted as he did when he did not see the broadcast at the time it was intended. It seems everything was later cleared up. But what happened then? People began rushing about kicking up a fuss. They really wanted to be involved in an "expose," to inflate the conflict and fan the flames. And they began doing so. Angry words were spoken in shrill voices: "This is a test, a test of our congress' fortitude and strength.... We will not allow dictatorship of any kind on our territory." "I demand that Comrade Nenashev come here and give the congress a proper explanation."

I would not be writing about this now but for one thing; it is relevant to the theme of our discussion. It seems to have gone unnoticed that during M. Nenashev's "cross-examination," a woman, the wife of the president, was insulted. Recall how Deputy G. Veretennikov asked him a question: "How many days before a broadcast does Raisa Maksimovna Gorbacheva, who holds no post in our country yet whom we regularly see on our television screens, come to speak to you?"

The tactlessness of this question was obvious. The deputy also showed a considerable ignorance of interstate relations. He should know that the wife of the president is more than just a housewife. Just look at the television broadcasts of a few visits to our country by other countries' presidents. You do not need to be very bright to see what I mean.

M. Nenashev answered the question. He said what was what: Raisa Maksimovna had never telephoned him, not once.

Nevertheless, as we know a letter to the president was adopted. But for some reason I did not hear or read that anyone had personally apologized for what was, to put it mildly, a lack of tact. It wasn't the congress' fault, so why hide behind the congress? Nor did anyone apologize to Raisa Maksimovna. It is as though the attack on her had not taken place. Perhaps someone is afraid of being accused of showing "allegiance." Such a fantastic idea is possible. But silence is no less hypocritical.

At the moment that is how we men look. We look bad. We are effusive in our declarations of respect for women. But what actually happens? The fruits of our "emancipation" are well known. I am not going to repeat myself. What is there left for women to do in this situation? Look after their own interests themselves. [passage omitted]

Shortages, Problems in Health Services Reported

Criminal Abuses Discussed

LD3008201290 Moscow TASS in English 1951 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—Measures to improve constitutional guarantees for citizens' rights to health protection were discussed today at the session of the Soviet procurator's office.

Soviet Procurator General Aleksander Sukharev said that check-ups revealed grave violations of legislation in the drug-store network, hospitals and polyclinics, and enterprises producing medicines.

Between 1988-1989, criminal proceedings were introduced against some 33,000 employees of the health care system and over 2,000 workers of the medical industry. Extortion of money and gifts from patients reached considerable amount in medical institutions.

Last year over 1,600 health service employees were made answerable for bribery, extortion, misappropriation, and abuse of position. It was noted that criminal gangs of medical workers, systematically stealing medical preparations and selling them to profiteers, are most dangerous. The procurator's office instituted criminal proceedings and began investigation on elicited facts.

Speakers particularly noted the irrational use of hard currency allocated by the government to purchase medicines abroad. Preparations imported for millions of foreign currency rubles, badly needed by seriously ill patients, are kept in storehouses as departments that purchased them but failed to provide physicians with instructions on the use of medicines.

The session decided to inform the Soviet parliament and government of the results of the discussion.

Medicine Shortage Foreseen

LD3008225190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2020 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] Health Minister Denisov has said that the country may have no medicine left by February of next year. As he justly pointed out, the pharmaceutical industry is collapsing even faster than the rest of industry. More specifically, it is forecast that only 30 percent of the demand for medicine will be met next year.

Economic

Government To Set Up Antimonopoly Committee

LD3008203590 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has decided to set up an antimonopoly committee which would take effective measures to promote economic competition in this country.

At present the monopoly of large enterprises in a number of industries is being viewed as a serious barrier in the way of normal market relations. A violation of the antimonopoly legislation may cost an enterprise up to 500,000 rubles in fines. The committee is empowered to confiscate part of the profit obtained through monopoly activities or unfair market competition.

Abalkin Addresses Trade Union Conference

PM3008140190 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 1

["Topic of the Day" article by I. Demchenko: "Market Economy Lesson in the 'School of Communism'"]

[Text] On the last two days off—Saturday and Sunday—more than 1,000 of the country's trade union activists were at their conference elaborating the trade unions' stance as the country switches to a regulated market economy. The conference was addressed by L. Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Economic Institute, with a report on the government's program for the switch; his deputy at the institute, B. Milner, with a report on various ways of making the switch to the market; A. Yakovlev, secretary of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU], on the trade unions' stance; V. Shcherbakov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, criticizing the trade unions' populist stance on the protection of working people's interests. The working group to prepare the concept for the transition to the market under the auspices of M. Gorbachev and B. Yeltsin was not represented at the conference.

But this latter fact did not prevent the main speakers and the other contributors from discussing work with which, by their own admission, they are unfamiliar or from criticizing it. The USSR Council of Ministers deputy chairman, a member of the working group, had a particularly negative opinion of its activities. He prefaced his statement by saying that he had not yet seen a single page of text written by the group.

I do not think there is any need to go into the details of the particular programs for the switch mentioned at the conference, because IZVESTIYA has discussed them regularly and in detail this month. The figures for proportionate influence on pricing proposed by the government commission are new and I do not believe they

have been published before: The Union government proposes to take control of around 30 percent of state retail prices; approximately 40 percent will fall within the sphere of republican and local regulation; the rest will be market prices. As a typical feature one must mention that the USSR Council of Ministers deputy chairman again stressed that it is not a new program, but a reworking and amplification of the old one that has been repeatedly rejected and is based on the principle of a nonexistent, more unified all-Union market.

There was practically nothing new from the trade union side either—except the proposal on a nationwide referendum on the switch to the market, which was unexpectedly included in the resolution at the last minute. Obviously, if this proposal is adopted, a statewide switch would be postponed indefinitely and this would provoke the republics into starting it independently. It may be a tempting idea to shift the responsibility for the decision onto the shoulders of the whole people, but a referendum is intrinsically meaningless: We cannot return to the old command-and-administer system even if we want to very much.

Obviously, the fear of ending up in identical conditions to the rest of the world, comparable to the feeling a rabbit gets when it is about to be swallowed by a snake, as one of the conference participants put it, can only be due to timidity and a failure to adjust. If the process is protracted the rabbit is bound to have a heart attack.

If anything deserves close attention, in my view, at the conference, it is above all the event itself. Despite the participants' complaints about its receiving inadequate attention from the Union government, I think the cabinet of ministers was very well represented at an event that did not even have official status. Aside from those who figured in the program, L. Voronin also visited the conference. Why was it so well represented?

Here we enter the realm of conjecture, although based on real facts that have occurred in the country's economy in recent weeks.

As is known, a consensus was reached between the two most authoritative leaders, M. Gorbachev and B. Yeltsin. The result of this agreement was the creation of the group working on the concept of a the switch to the market. The government commission has continued to improve its own program at the same time. Despite the fact that both urged cooperation, no agreement was reached between them.

Judging by L. Abalkin's statements at the trade union aktiv conference, the government's reluctance to cooperate with "competitors" developed into open confrontation. But public opinion is clearly sympathetic toward the new team. Polls conducted by the sociologists of the All-Union Center for the Study of Public Opinion show that the Union government's authority is waning.

I think it was these facts that prompted the well-known government program ideologist to seek an ally in the shape of the trade unions—the most wide-ranging public and state organization in the country.

L. Abalkin's speech was greeted with understanding, particularly as on this occasion the government had presented a program of measures on the social protection of the population (it was poublished in IZVESTIYA). Statements by the USSR Council of Ministers deputy chairman to the effect that he is against the USSR and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviets' discussing the various programs for a switch to the market—only one program, the government program, should be discussed— and to the effect that the government is keeping in reserve various direct appeals to the people for support via the head of the parliament or by convening an extraordinary Congress of People's Deputies were listened to without discussion and without an opinion being expressed. Moreover, he asked people not to disturb the government for the next 18 months, so that he can get some quiet work done. I would remind you that the previous 18 months expires in four months, so the extension, if it is accepted, will take the guaranteed period up to the start of 1992.

The trade union aktiv conference final document says that the program must be a fundamentally new one, one the people understand, a balanced, realistic program, based on the establishment of a single all-Union market and incorporating a high level of social protection for people as an integral part of it. It is clear that the government has support among the trade unions, but hardly a thorough understanding of the problem. It is not suprising: Until recently there was no topic entitled "market economy" in the the program of the "school of communism" at all.

Shcherbakov Cites 'Social Protection' Measures

PM3008132190 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Aug 90 Second Edition pp 1-2

[Interview with V.I. Shcherbakov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, by Yu. Skidanov: "Freedom for the Strong, Guarantees for the Weak; Point of State Concept of Social Protection for the Population During Transition to Regulated Market"—first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Text] A kilogram of meat costs 10 rubles [R] or even more. A kilogram of potatoes costs R1.5 to R2. Those prices are from the market, in the direct and figurative sense. They are close to free prices based on supply and demand which operate in commodity-money relations. But here are different figures. As of 1 July, R75 was the average per capita monthly income for nearly 40 million Soviet people. Gloomy proportions. But what will happen tomorrow when the market starts to work at full strength! A program, one of whose main components is the social protection of the population during the transition to a regulated market economy, is being submitted for examination by the next Supreme Soviet session. At

the PRAVDA editorial board's request V.I. Shcherbakov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, comments on this program.

[Skidanov] Vladimir Ivanovich, to judge by PRAVDA's mail many readers, to put it mildly, await the market without enthusiasm: It is associated with unemployment, a rise in prices, and a reduction of the living standard. It is also very worrying disbelief is being manifested in the state's ability to smooth over these negative processes.

[Shcherbakov] Unless I am wrong it was Churchill who gave a sufficiently caustic description of the "distributive" socialism which we are now leaving behind: "capitalism is inequality in the distribution of wealth, socialism is equality in the distribution of poverty." So to obtain a third variation—equality (and not leveling down, as now!) in the distribution of wealth which must first be produced. No state can force a person to labor in a highly productive way if he has no personal economic interest. How do matters stand now? The state centralizes in social consumption funds the larger part of the incomes obtained in the labor collectives, and it gives each specific worker less than half the money he has really earned. That is only enough, and then not always, for current expenditures on clothing, shoes, and food.

The main aim of the concept of social protection for the population which we have proposed is to give freedom for all those who are seeking to earn a good wage and who can do so. A man will start to get more money thanks to his personal labor investment—he will increase his prosperity and be able to satisfy his needs. On the other hand, he will pay more taxes for his social needs, including for state social programs.

[Skidanov] Consequently tough restrictions "from above" on the amounts of individual incomes will be abolished at enterprises of all forms of ownership?

[Shcherbakov] Yes, our draft intends to abandon the direct regulation of the worker's individual or average wage, and to switch to the taxation method of regulating funds for the remuneration of labor. The size of an individual wage should be determined only by the worker's labor and the volume of funds for his remuneration earned by the enterprise. The working people's social protection by the state will be ensured by a set guaranteed minimum wage for all qualification categories.

At the general state level only the minimum wage rate for the first category and wage rate coefficients, which reflect differences in the difficulty of work for each professional and skill group, should be asserted in the long term. All the rest—additional payments, the determining of the size of wages and salaries, the introduction of labor norms—are within the competence of the enterprise.

Wages can be raised "upward" without restriction. But they cannot be lower than the state minimum.

[Skidanov] Millions of people are employed in budget organs on fixed wages. A nurse, or for instance a librarian, even now cannot be particularly flamboyant on R120 to R150....

[Shcherbakov] For organizations and institutions on budget financing—libraries, hospitals, polyclinics, and cultural institutions—it is planned to earmark funds for wages directly from the relevant budget. Here minimum wage and salary and allowance and additional payment rates should not be lower than at economically accountable enterprises.

[Skidanov] But what about those who cannot work at full strength—children, students, pensioners, invalids, mothers of many children? Will they not be "jettisoned from the ship of life?"

[Shcherbakov] Expenditure from social consumption funds will be geared toward those who are most vulnerable under the quite tough conditions—there is no point in hiding it—of the market. We believe that money subsidies and handouts in kind under the conditions of the commodity shortage should be received primarily by people who for objective reasons cannot earn independently or have an adequate income. Specifically that means families with many children, young or single-parent families, children, young students, invalids, and pensioners. The redistribution of budget funds in favor of these categories of the population is already under way. You only have to cite the legislative acts for the reform of pension provisions and the recent government resolution designed to give material support to families with children.

We suggest including the majority of sectors of the social sphere—health, physical culture, housing and municipal services, and preschool education for children—in the sphere of partial self-financing. For all strata of the population a guaranteed minimum level of services offered free by society should be established in accordance with existing social norms. Consumption above the minimum should be paid for by the able-bodied population from enterprises' collective funds and private means.

Guarantees of material support and social services for the elderly, invalids, young, single-parent, or large families must be kept as the province of the state, meeting them as before from social consumption funds.

In distributing housing the state must guarantee free of charge a certain area of housing per person. And above this level a person pays for housing from his own savings or from funds allocated by the enterprise.

It is extremely important to correctly correlate the spheres of competence, functions, rights, and responsibility of various levels of state protection of the interests of socially weak strata of the population. Proceeding from the foundations of the economic relations of the USSR and the Union and autonomous republics, the expansion of the sovereignty of the Union republics and

of the rights of local soviets of people's deputies, and the increased economic independence of associations and enterprises, it is planned to delimit the functions of the social protection of badly off citizens between the USSR, the Union republics, local soviets, and labor collectives.

Thus the draft provides for four strata of social protection being created. I shall note that many of its elements are already in operation. Individual enterprises pay "their own" pensioners an additional sum; they receive meat, clothing, and shoes under direct contracts and distribute them to workers; and introduce free or subsidized catering. It should be expected that the local soviets, having at their disposal the full sum of income tax as of next year, will not forget the badly off.

[Skidanov] Today the official minimum living wage is R70. It is hard to imagine how one can live on that amount. How specifically will this very important social norm be determined?

[Shcherbakov] The minimum living wage shopping basket is a collection of consumer benefits and services ensuring a person consumption at the minimum admissible level accepted in society.

Considering that the consumption of benefits and services in various sociodemographic groups of the population varies, shopping baskets are calculated for each separately: for children in five age groups, working women, men, pensioners, and urban and rural inhabitants.

The main item of expenditure in the minimum consumer budget is food. This expenditure is determined according to a selection recommended by the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences. This selection includes virtually all the foods essential in terms of calorific value and chemical content: meat, milk, eggs, fish, sugar, bread, groats, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, and berries. For instance, for an able-bodied man this selection provides for the consumption of 64 kg of meat and meat products a year, 22 kg of fish, 312 kg of milk and dairy products, 26kg of sugar, 110 kg of potatoes, and 135 kg of vegetables.

Expenditure on clothing, linen, and shoes come second in the minimum budget. To determine this expenditure our specialists compiled a "wardrobe" of essential items of clothing, linen, and shoes for each member of the family. The selection considered rational norms and the time items take to wear out, elaborated by competent scientific organizations. Minimum prices from the goods existing in the state trade network were taken into account. The shopping basket for a man of working age, for instance, includes the following items: A winter coat and a light overcoat, each taking seven years to wear out; a jacket; a suit, replaced every three years; pants; a sweater; shirts, two a year; working clothing; underwear; gloves; a scarf; a fur hat; a hat; boots and shoes, two pairs a year; sneakers; a wadded quilt; a flannel bed cover; bed linen; towels; handkerchiefs; and a sports costume. Not much? But you must remember that the state of the economy is not brilliant.

The size of the minimum wage will be strictly linked to the minimum living wage and in turn the size of pensions, allowances, grants, and other payments will be linked to the minimum wage.

For instance, if a shopping "basket" of 300 types of goods and services has become more expensive, and under the new conditions costs R80, then the new living wage will be R80. Hence the minimum wage will be R80 and the minimum pension R80, the allowance for caring a child under 18 months old will be R80, or 100 percent of the minimum wage, and a higher educational establishment grant will be R60, or 75 percent of the minimum wage. Thus, when reviewing the minimum wage there will automatically be a review of the size of all types of social payments to weak strata of the population.

Now about inflation. In our opinion it is possible to protect people against it. The state, not limiting itself to the regulation of prices, will create conditions for a simultaneous and equal increase in all incomes of the population. Here average prices and average incomes should grow simultaneously and in approximately the same proportion.

[Skidanov] A result of market relations will be the structural perestroyka of the economy, and a labor market will form. An inevitable and it must be said sinister concomitant of this is unemployment.

[Shcherbakov] We predict this situation. Its development depends on the strategy of the transition to the market. If, as some economists suggest, we switch instantly to free prices based on supply and demand, then according to our calculations work problems will arise for 35-40 million people. A considerable proportion of them will be able to find work rapidly. But approximately one-third may be out of work for some time. Will our economy hold out after such a shock for a minimum of two years during which the situation should theoretically be normalized gradually? I do not mention the sociopsychological climate in society. The government believes that a gradual transition to the market is necessary. Then it may be possible to avoid threats of massive unemployment and to create a system of social shock-absorbers and regulators during the redistribution processes which in that case will affect the interests of approximately 8 to 10 million people. But on the other hand there are 2.8 million jobs unfilled in the country today and there is an opportunity for 7 to 8 million people finding work in a second shift while 3 to 4 million will be able to enter trade and the services sphere. In addition we should not forget individual labor activity, the cooperatives, and domiciliary work.

That is why I should like to speak not of the problem of unemployment but of the problem of employment. In conjunction with the All-Union Central Council of

Trade Unions we have prepared for examination in the Supreme Soviet the draft fundamental principles of legislation of the USSR and the Union republics on the population's employment. In accordance with this draft it is planned to create a state employment service while the direct organization of the work will be assumed by local organs of power using budget funds of all levels.

[Skidanov] Will there be labor exchanges 60 years on?

[Shcherbakov] The state employment service will engage not only in seeking jobs and setting people up in jobs. Its functions are far broader: regulating employment processes on the territory, training and retraining cadres, organizing community work, paying allowances during a period of temporary unemployment, and others. In brief, implementing state guarantees of the right to work....

[Skidanov] Please tell me in more detail about the proposed size and terms for the payment of temporary unemployment benefits.

[Shcherbakov] Our draft provides for the state guaranteeing all USSR citizens with the right to this benefit the following compensation:

—at least 50 percent of their wages at their former work place, calculated in relation to the wage (salary) rates recommended by the state, but not lower than the minimum wage envisaged by USSR legislation in the event of loss of work on condition that the citizen has had paid employment for at least 12 weeks within the 12 months prior to the start of his temporary unemployment;

—at least 50 percent of the minimum wage set by USSR legislation in all other cases.

Those who have lost their job as a result of an industrial accident or occupational disease are paid the benefit irrespective of their work record. The size of the benefit for temporary unemployment is subject to anti-inflationary indexing within the stipulated procedure.

In the period during which a citizen receives temporary unemployment benefits his continuous work record is not interrupted.

The state fund which is being created for vocational guidance and aid to the unemployed population is also designed to ease the adaptation to the market as much as possible. The main source of the fund's formation will be payments from the profits of enterprises of all forms of ownership at the rate of one percent of their expenditure on wages. Some 75 percent of the funds obtained will be at the disposal of the Union republics while the remainder must be concentrated at Union level.

What will this money go on? According to specialists' assessments, as early as 1991 it will be necessary to retrain about 2.4 million people. For that it is necessary to seek out funds, training places, and prepare special programs for training the adult population. That costs R2.8 billion.

The state must guarantee temporary work for those who fail to find permanent employment. To this end an institute of paid community work is being created. In 1991 it is proposed to provide for the temporary employment in paid community work of approximately 900,000 people.

In addition, at Union level it is planned to create a reserve of funds to help the Union republics to finance the elaboration of state programs and conduct scientific research in the employment field. Throughout the country as a whole there will be about 13 employment service workers for every 100,000 of the population which accords with indicators in the FRG, the United States, and Japan.

I have listed only some of the most important provisions of the new concept. We await its businesslike discussion in society and in the USSR Supreme Soviet. We shall be grateful for any qualified suggestions.

Shcherbakov Discusses Miners' Grievances

904F0239A Moscow TRUD in Russian 12 Aug 90 p 1

[Report by correspondent N. Mokrishchev from Donetsk on 11 August: "To Authority—Through Results; V.P. Shcherbakov's Meeting with Donbass Miners"]

[Text]**V.P. Shcherbakov, who was recently elected deputy chairman of the AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions] and who was commissioned to fulfill the duties of chairman of the All-Union Central Council until the 19th Trade Union Congress, completed his first trip around the country with a visit to miners in the Donbass.**

Vladimir Pavlovich arrived at the workers' (strike) committee of the "Donetskugol" association directly from the airport on the evening of 9 August. The discussion that took place here on vital problems of the life of the country, trade unions, and the workers movement was extremely frank and at times harsh.

When will we live better? Why is a real fight not being waged against the shadow economy? Why are trade unions slow to act and frequently refuse to have anything to do with strikes as an emergency measure in the workers' struggle for their rights and interests? What is your position on the miners' demands for the resignation of the government? Must a trade union worker be on the staff of the party committee or not? In what way does the AUCCTU plan not to permit a lowering of the people's living standard in the transition to a market? During the course of two and a half hours, V. Shcherbakov answered these and other critical questions.

Immediately after the meeting with the strike committee, I asked the AUCCTU deputy chairman to give me a brief interview.

[Shcherbakov] I believe that the discussion and the exchange of information was useful. Up until now, two

'protective' streams have been flowing, like two parallel lines that will never intersect—the strike movement and the trade union movement. It is useful to unite them and to coordinate actions precisely. And solidarity is needed. The miners are going forward, but they cannot be in the vanguard alone all of the time. It is easier to bridle a divided movement, and there are many such efforts. As soon as the trade unions began to extricate themselves from the usual dictates and to remove the "driving belt," then the attack on them began. No one needs strong trade unions—neither the government, nor the 'super-radicals' who are trying to replace the present trade union with new, free, but... even more obedient trade unions.

[Mokrishchev] Does it not seem to you, Vladimir Pavlovich, that other strike committees can serve as a prototype for renewed trade union committees?

[Shcherbakov] In the sense of aggressiveness, firmness, and consistency, yes. And it is precisely according to this principle that leaders should be nominated—openly, from among the workers, and they should be given a great vote of confidence...[end Shcherbakov]

Early in the morning on 10 August, V. Shcherbakov arrived at the "Zuyevka" mine administration of the "Shakhterskugol" association. This is an ordinary enterprise where thin layers are exhausted and heavy manual labor prevails. It was somehow built in the Donetsk steppe at the beginning of the 1950's, when coal had to be taken quickly, and the mine works to this day according to a time schedule. It is being overworked, and it has long since passed its productive potential. We walked for about an hour from the mine shaft to the mine face, stumbling over ties, sidestepping potholes filled with water, and, afterward, drenched in sweat, we crawled along a 200-meter wall face....

In December of last year, a tragedy occurred at the Gorlovka mine "Aleksandr-Zapad": Chlorobenzene that leaked from the chemical plant into mine openings took three lives and affected the health of 800 miners. The AUCCTU deputy chairman's meeting at the mine's trade union committee, where chairmen of the trade union district committees had assembled, began, naturally, with a conversation on the progress in eliminating the aftereffects of the tragedy. The just indignation of the miners is aroused by the prolonged petty intrigues of the Ministry of the Defense Industry, under which the chemical plant fails, over compensation for the damage that was caused. Until now, not only is not the claim in the sum of 7.5 million rubles [R] not satisfied, but the half-bankrupt coal enterprise paid out R750,000 in state duties for court costs. And now the damage is already reaching R22 million. An arbitration commission has been appointed....

Apparently, the atmosphere has become so tense that a squabble broke out between trade union activists and the chairman of the mine's STK [workers council].

"The STK was established to impede the trade union committee, and nothing more," said mine worker A. Rakita heatedly. Aside from dealing out commodities in short supply, it does practically nothing, and it is indifferent to the fact that discipline has fallen sharply and that injuries have doubled."

"The trade union at the mine is needed by some people in order to execute the tasks of the STK," seconded face worker N. Lobachev. "A paper was displayed with the resolution: 'Let the trade union committee investigate and report to the STK.'"

V. Shcherbakov agreed with the opinion of the trade union activists.

Both at the "Zuyevka" and at this mine, it was announced in a tough way: If the autumn session of the USSR Supreme Soviet will not pass the law on trade union rights and does not revoke their discriminatory decrees, we will take resolute steps including, possibly, an appeal to the workers with a proposal to recall their people's deputies as not warranting the trust of the voters. This idea could be heard during V.P. Shcherbakov's talks in the Donetsk Oblast Council of Trade Unions and with the chairman of the trade union committees of the coal enterprises of the oblast center.

...When the brief visit of the AUCCTU deputy chairman ended, I asked him to share his impressions with me.

"I became convinced once more," he said, "that a reciprocal reaction can be seen along the entire front that the trade unions have begun to wake up and to deal with their direct functions. Incidentally, they are also being criticized for this from all sides. Therefore, there has to be a sharp change in the attitude toward legislative activity not only of the hundred of our parliamentarians, but, I think, of the people's deputies in the regions. The workers are ready to remind them who elected them and why. And law should be specifically about rights and not about trade unions, for they will end up then under the control of the state. We should not get a law that is emasculated, as G. Borisenko, a Gorlovka trade union worker, said....

"A second consideration. A general agreement has to be concluded between the trade unions and the government. Its first and main point will be the obligation not to permit a lowering of an already low standard of living of the people. Such agreements should also be made locally. And we must not allow massive unemployment, for which public opinion is being prepared, and appeals can already be heard for the organization of a "public fund" to help the unemployed. Also, it should not be heard: The state cuts the jobs, but the public provides the help.

"And third. Everything must be done before the 19th Trade Union Congress so that the primary organizations enjoy their rights in full measure. No kind of dictate, only voluntariness, advice, agreement, and understanding. Complete freedom of action of the republic

and the branch—for the sake of the freedom of the primary organizations—this is our principle. But before the congress, all delegations should determine their position on unification or confederation—instead of the AUCCTU. There is only one path to authority—only through well-reasoned, skillful, and sufficiently effective actions, and only through results.

"In conclusion, I want to emphasize especially that the people in the Donbass are critical, competent, and sincere. The way they should be."

Railcars Filled With Food Await Unloading

904D0212C Moscow TRUD in Russian 23 Aug 90 p 1

[Report by A. Rostarchuk: "And the Cargo Is Still There..."]

[Text] On Saturday TRUD reported that 1,500 refrigerated railroad cars were standing in the commercial stations waiting to be unloaded. What has changed in past days? Nothing. As the Ministry of Railways reported to us, 1,500 refrigerated cars containing food are still waiting to be unloaded.

Since 15 August, for example, the Ostankinskiy meat combine has been unable to "free" refrigerated section 4-2767 containing meat, 41 cars containing meat for the Krasnogvardeyskiy meat combine are standing at Biryulevo station, and 31 cars containing meat for the Chernizovskiy meat combine are at Belokamennaya station.

And this kind of attitude toward cargoes the people need so much is not found only in the capital or the Leningrad railroad center. At Kushelevka station, 13 cars containing meat for the Leningrad refrigeration plant are waiting to be unloaded. Novyy Port station has a refrigerator car with slaughtered poultry that has been waiting five days to be unloaded.

One could continue for a long time to name cargo recipients who display this kind of inefficiency and disorganization.

The same 100,000 containers that they had six days ago, or almost a million tons of various kinds of national economic cargo, are still waiting in the railroad stations. During past days more than 29,000 cars have not been unloaded....

Yesterday about 4,500 carloads of grain were not unloaded—six days ago we wrote about "only" 4,000. It is striking: Leaders of all ranks are calling for us to harvest, store, and preserve this year's rich harvest, but the leaders themselves are not capable of organizing the work.

The products of the fields and farms, the food the country needs so much are choking up not only the railroads but also the river ports.

In the village of Kstovo (Gorkiy Oblast) the local grain receiving point is unable to accept about 12,000 tons of grain and several ships are waiting here to be unloaded.

But apparently this idle time of the ships and railroad cars filled with grain does not bother the recipients. Otherwise how does one explain this fact: Last Sunday a number of grain receiving and grain processing enterprises arranged a day off for themselves.

Millions of tons of cargo have been delivered and are being delivered by the Ministry of Railways and the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Ministry of the River Fleet. But the recipients are in no hurry to pick them up. Is this perhaps because nobody bears personal (including material) responsibility for the idle time of ships and railroad cars?

Agricultural

Issues Facing Presidential, Federation Councils

LD3008125190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1200 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] One of today's most important events is the session in Moscow of the Presidential Council and the Federation Council. The focus of attention is on measures to get out of the economic crisis. In the current exceedingly difficult situation one of the fundamental issues is to what extent, if at all, the economic strategies of the Union and individual republics are to be dovetailed. As you know, intensive consultations are at present under way on this problem. A Union-wide strategy could strengthen our country, but to do this it has to be sufficiently attractive to all republics, be supported by them, and of course be successful. Otherwise, in my view, one can expect the centrifugal tendencies in the economy to mount form the fall onward.

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Orenburg Fails To Receive Promised Grain Cars

PM3008142590 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Aug 90 First Edition p 1

[Report under the "Warning Signal" rubric: "Varying Orders...."]

[Excerpt] Orenburg—The prolonged heavy rain has left the Orenburgkhleboprodukt association two ways out of its emergency situation. The first is to step up the drying of the grain. But all the drying units are working flat out and there are still over 200,000 tonnes of damp and wet grain left. The second solution is to transfer the wet produce to other parts of the country, for example to the Altay or Novosibirsk. But for that, of course, you need freight cars.

Having received the relevant order—No. G-13/853 dated 24 July—from the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Grain Products of the RSFSR, the association rejoiced. The Kuybyshev, South Urals, and West Kazakhstan railroads pledged to supply as many grain cars as Orenburg requested—on average, 721 cars a day. Ministers N. Konarev and N. Golub took the big grain harvest into account.

But in fact the Orenburg producers' request has not once been met since the harvest began. The best figure was around 420 freight cars. All three railroads have been supplying half their target. But the indiscipline of the West Kazakh workers is most infuriating. On 20 August they sent only 17 out of the 46 freight cars requested. [passage omitted]

Grain Storage System Developed in Odessa Oblast

PM3008150890 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Report by A. Vengruk and V. Zaytsev from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Let me remind you that our thriftlessness costs us up to 20 percent, and for some products up to 30 to 40 percent of all that is produced in the countryside. And in totality this is equivalent to the volume of our purchases from abroad. Yet in our country a fundamentally new grain storage technology has been developed. It was developed by specialists from the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for the Mechanization of Agriculture and the All-Union Institute of Light Alloys Science and Production Association.

[Reporter] Externally it all looks very simple: four aluminum storage units, a transportation system, and systems for monitoring the grain quality. All in all, the complex is capable of keeping thousands of tonnes of grain in good condition all the year round and can be stationed at the threshing floor, at the mixed feed plant, or actually on the edges of the field.

Ivan Vasilyevich, how did you manage before, without these structures?

[I.V. Kalmakan, director of the 50 Let Velikogo Oktyabrya Sovkhoz (state farm), Kominternovskiy Rayon, Odessa Oblast] How did we manage before? Before everything was on the ground we lost a lot, but since these storage facilities came along it is remarkable, everything that comes out of the fields arrives here; formerly, in order for 1,000 tonnes of grain a day to be accepted, I had to maintain a staff of about 50 with 15 to 20 people per shift. But now we run all this with two people. I could take something like another 6,000 tonnes.

[Reporter] The grain model is in its fifth season at the sovkhoz. It has made a profit for the last two years. In all, the storage unit should be able to be in use for 50 years. Thus grain storage is two or three times cheaper than

usual; and another important point, the length of the road transport leg has been reduced by nearly 100 km, and that means saving fuel.

[M.Z. Lokshin, department chief at the All-Union Institute of Light Alloys Science and Production Association] The structure has been fully perfected and has passed state tests; it is necessary to embark, in a serious and businesslike manner, on the wide production of such storage units....

[Reporter] What is preventing this?

[M.S. Sirotinskiy, chief scientific staffer of the All-Union Institute of Light Alloys] On the one hand, the indifferent attitude of various people who are responsible for resolving the problem of the supply of metal, the supply of structures, equipment.... I think it is necessary, first, without fail, to have special allocations of aluminum for these purposes, and second, to include it in the conversion program. We rely very much on the decisions of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and the Russian Supreme Soviet for as many as possible of these grain stores to be built out of the farms' own resources at the field edges. When we can store the grain, we will be able to feed the people.

[Announcer] I will add to that reportage that in our country we have only 47 such complexes at the moment. Yet a battery of storage units like this can be erected and made ready for use in 24 hours and the whole complex in 40 days. And you need only nine kg of aluminum. That is not much more than half the metal needed for a 50-liter milk can.

Military

Dzasokhov Addresses Army Political Workers

PM3108091990 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
31 Aug 90 First Edition pp 1-2

["Extracts From Speech by A.S. Dzasokhov, Member of the Politburo and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 29 August 1990 Meeting of Soviet Army and Navy Ideological Workers: Toward a New Quality of Military Ideological Work"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Perestroyka started with the spiritual sphere. Cliches of theory are being overcome and a start has been made on shaping a new-style ideology centering on people and their lives, rights, and freedoms.

That is why the main thing for us now is to seek constructive solutions capable of inspiring people with confidence in the sincerity and **indispensability** of their aspirations, in the correctness of their political and economic choice, and in the promising nature of the steps we are taking.

In his speech on the results of the discussion of the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 28th CPSU Congress, M.S. Gorbachev drew attention to the fact that **socialist ideology will be shaped together with socialism.**

The orientation of politics toward the spiritual sphere will require enormous theoretical and organizational work from the party; collaboration with social and creative organizations, unions, and foundations; and an active dialogue with the intelligentsia—in other words, a **new ultural policy**. This is the aim of the congress document "On Party Policy in the Sphere of Education, Science, and Culture."

The congress reaffirmed that the **Army has been and continues to be a real school of spiritual education and physical maturation for young people, providing them with ideological, moral, and political tempering.** That was the case in the terrible war years, in the busy military life of peacetime, and in the difficult trials of Afghanistan. Nonetheless we have recently been sensing ever more acutely the urgent need to make a breakthrough as regards the spiritual, moral, and cultural growth of servicemen, particularly students at military educational establishments and draft soldiers and noncommissioned officers. We resolutely reject the opportunistic attacks of some of the mass media, which have been discussing in every possible way the "dulling" and "degradation of the individual in the Army." At the same time, we are obliged to look at and study the life of military collectives, and to analyze the most mature comments and topical articles in the press.

Renewed ideological work should ensure that the Army is reborn—reborn morally and spiritually and freeing itself from backwardness, isolation, bureaucracy, coarseness, the disintegration [rassloyeniye] of the officer corps, and abnormal mutual relations among soldiers. **The traditional concepts of Honor, Dignity, Duty, and Valor should be characteristic and inalienable features of the Armed Forces' glorious officer corps.**

The Soviet people and the party pay their respects to and are grateful for the labor feats of Army and Navy in the exceptionally difficult conditions of this year's harvest. According to Defense Ministry figures, 46,000 Army vehicles had been involved in moving agricultural produce as of the end of August, and 92 motor vehicle battalions had been formed. This represents many thousands of officers and men. Army and Navy Communists have been in the front ranks.

One of the central issues to be discussed during the current rally of Army and Navy ideological workers is the forthcoming **reformation of political organs.** The CPSU Central Committee believes that this problem has come to a head. New forms for organizing political and ideological work among the troops should more fully correspond to the spirit of the times and the general trend toward the democratization of society, the state, and its structures. We hope that the **two-pronged structure** of Army organs carrying out political and party functions, as proposed by the Defense Ministry and

Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate leadership, will make it possible to substantially enhance the qualitative level of ideological education work in the Armed Forces; to bring party committees closer to officers and men; and to democratize their work, freeing them from the administrative shackles of their former subordination.

The restructuring of the Armed Forces' political organs is taking place in the course of the military reform and is designed to actively promote its dynamic implementation. The transition to a new Army political structure is a most important task for perestroyka, with immense domestic and international significance. M.S. Gorbachev devoted a great deal of attention to this during his recent speech in Odessa Military District. We would like to actively support his ideas in the following direction.

The ideological basis of military reform is the USSR's new defensive military doctrine. Its political aspect—oriented toward the prevention, not the preparation of war—radically changes our attitude to the problem of war and peace posed before civilization. The new political thinking reveals in a fundamentally different way the dialectics of force and security. It rejects the archaic postulate of the era of the division of the world and world wars—"If you want peace prepare for war!"—which equates force with security. Evidently military force as an instrument of security will increasingly recede into the background, giving way to the purely political nonviolent instrument.

That is the reality, although the opponents of the new thinking could object: Are we not being too bold in abandoning elements of the position of strength policy? Are our hopes of a nonviolent policy not illusory? First it is worth taking a look around and asking on what basis, a strong-arm basis or a political basis, the long and gloomy "cold war" period leading toward the nuclear abyss is drawing to a close.

To this it can be added that our doctrine's **principle of defense sufficiency** does not exclude the military instrument in security policy. What is important is its orientation toward curbing and preventing war and maintaining stability and peace.

The **trend toward demilitarization** of the relations between the world's leading military powers can be seen first and foremost in Europe and in the Soviet-American nuclear confrontation [protivostoyaniye]. Real disarmament is no longer the fruit of groundless illusions. Another contribution that it makes is that the threat of war for our country from NATO has declined considerably. Substantial measures to reduce our military potential can be taken in line with the Vienna talks which are formulating an accord between the Warsaw Pact and NATO on conventional arms, and the Soviet-U.S. talks on a 50 percent reduction in the sides' strategic nuclear arsenals. From the viewpoint of the Soviet position the following assessment can be made of the course of these talks, which are nearing completion:

At the Vienna talks, categories and levels of arms which are acceptable to us have been agreed. At the Soviet-U.S. talks on strategic offensive arms all the key questions on the maximum levels of the sides' nuclear systems have essentially been resolved.

In the CPSU Central Committee there is awareness of the complexity of the tasks set by perestroyka in the military field. The **Defense Council under the country's president** created in a renewed form is closely concerned with these questions. Effective joint work by the political and military leadership is organized within its framework.

In our view it is worth considering the broader involvement of Army and Navy cadres, sector main commands, the commanders in chief of the branches of the Armed Forces, and the commanders of districts and fleets in elaborating and assessing the effectiveness of given specific steps by our state in the foreign policy field which have a direct bearing on disarmament, security, and stability and therefore directly affect the Armed Forces' combat potential. In general there is a need for a good level of information from the General Staff as one of the important participants in the country's foreign policy activity.

It is indisputable that **it is extremely complex to disarm and strengthen defense capability at the same time**, especially in a crisis economy and when the state mechanism and sociopolitical institutions are being remodeled. It is inevitable that there will be morale and social costs whenever part of a well organized and established military structure is demobilized. The critics of the new political thinking play on this, essentially calling into question the new military doctrine and military reform which directly involve the physical reduction of troops and arms, as is happening today in the context of organizational and structural alterations in the Army and Navy.

For all of us this offers tremendous scope for political work to support military reform. Not only theoretical work linked with providing a fundamental base for the extent of the necessary military contribution to our national security—which is the equivalent of providing an answer to the question of the limits of defense sufficiency—but also practical work with a direct impact on society's attitude toward the Army and the resolution of questions pertaining to socioeconomic guarantees, and legal and juridical protection for regular soldiers released under the cutbacks and to their retraining and inclusion in civilian life.

We agree with the opinion of the country's president that the measures taken at Union level lately and at the Defense Ministry level cannot solve this problem. As is well known, the corresponding state program to ensure social backup for servicemen in the immediate future and the longer term has been submitted for examination

by the government with the participation of CPSU deputy members, and active legislative work has been begun on a package of legal acts to ensure the normal functioning of the Armed Forces as a state instrument for safeguarding the country's national security and sovereignty—**namely the laws on defense, the status of servicemen, and military service.**

The **democratization** of ideology is designed to impart new quality to it. This is the key problem on which the party's viability depends.

The essence of the matter is to organically bind the party's ideological concepts to the sphere of people's everyday spiritual needs—cultural, moral, ethical, and information needs. Ideology is not a vaccine giving temporary immunity against something nasty and alien, it is a clearly recognized choice in favor of self-development for the individual and the citizen. Its entire content should come from life rather than being imposed on it from outside like some kind of truism requiring blind obedience and mass circulation. The ideology of socialist choice can assert itself only by dint of its truth and cogency, not by force.

This is a critically important question for the specific conditions of the Army and Navy in which the nature of individual and collective mutual relations is determined by the principle of **one-man command.** Behind this is the division of the functions of commanders and political organs, and the determination of the forms and methods of their actions in the ideological sphere. In any military organization the power of the commander is undoubtedly a priority. However, in a democratic rule-of-law state **we want to have a democratic army.** This is surely borne out by the negative attitude expressed at the party congress to the depoliticization of the Armed Forces and the removal of party influence from them [departizatsiya]. At the congress, delegates from the country's party organizations expressed their opinions which were enshrined in the adopted documents. For its part the CPSU Central Committee repeatedly reaffirmed with full responsibility that political organs and party organizations are highly important tools of the Army and Navy, and there is no doubting the need for them. It is no exaggeration to say that the renewed Army party organizations, once given an independent structure, will more clearly reflect the democratic institution of the Armed Forces.

Military-patriotic education should be the key component in the party's ideological function. The assessment of the situation in this ideological sector borders on the extremely unsatisfactory. There have been many failures. Owing to the passivity of ideological cadres and local party and soviet organs, many negative phenomena have built up. The material base of the DOSAAF [Voluntary Society for the Promotion of the Army, Aviation, and Navy] is being weakened under the conditions of economic accountability. The forms of work of this youth organization—which was once very popular among young people—have become unattractive. Education in the glorious and heroic traditions of Army and Navy needs to be given its second wind. The large number of military-patriotic clubs and young people's sports associations set up in the country and attached to military units should be more actively involved in this work. The new military-political organs should not lose sight of the training of young people for Army service; they should seek out and find contacts with local organs, ideological centers, and social organizations; and they should manifest their own inherent military organization and doggedness since the quality and combat condition of our Armed Forces tomorrow will depend on this work.

The very important, and for perestroyka worrying, **aspect of internationalism** exists in military-patriotic education today. The explosion in the national self-awareness of our country's peoples has developed dramatically rather than progressively in a number of parts of the country. Separatism and outbursts of nationalism have affected internationalism—one of the loftiest moral principles of military patriotism in a multinational state. I think there is no need to explain what this has cost military commissariats and the Army directly which has "lost" thousands of draftees on ethnic grounds alone.

These negative phenomena could not fail to have affected the **prestige** of military service, not only as the obligation of people of a certain age to carry out their constitutional duty, but also the profession of officer which is chosen voluntarily and for one's entire conscious life. The party, like society, is alarmed by this issue. I think that a great role in getting out of this situation will be played by a sound **military-patriotic concept** corresponding to the goals of humane and democratic socialism. The party proceeds on the basis that it should be founded on the principles of new political thinking and accord with the USSR's new defense military doctrine. This concept should also be geared to the spiritual—moral, educational, and cultural—sphere of our people, particularly young people.

There is an important political criterion in assessing the effectiveness of the state's military organization. This criterion is the moral and ideological steadfastness of people in uniform. A great deal of attention was devoted to this by the last CPSU congress which adopted an important program document on the basic guidelines for the party's military policy at the present-day stage.

Baltic Republics

Lithuanian Party Urges National Reconciliation

LD3008120190 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 1005 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Press Review"]

[Excerpts] TIESA publishes an appeal of the Secretariat of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee to Lithuanian Communist Party members and sponsors, and to all people of Lithuania, invite the signing of a declaration of national reconciliation. Lately, states the appeal, the propaganda campaign against the Lithuanian Communist Party and other political forces and figures defending realistic positions and democracy has intensified. [passage omitted]

The appeal contains five statements. The fifth states: We especially cherish and encourage the accord and cooperation of all people in Lithuania, and therefore propose to all Lithuania's political forces to support and sign a declaration of national reconciliation. It would direct all the nation's creative forces to the solution of the most important economic, social, and spiritual problems. Today, there is no more significant aim than the consolidation of democracy in independent Lithuania. Without national reconciliation, which reaches all strata of society and each of its members, we will not be able to attain aims which are sacred to all of us. The Lithuanian Communist Party invites everyone to reconciliation.

Lithuania Fears West May Compromise Its Future

LD3008224690 Vilnius International Service in English 2130 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] The Lithuanian government and other political spheres are greatly concerned by the forthcoming meeting of the heads of the Governments of the Soviet Union, the United States of America, Great Britain, France, and Germany which is due to take place in Moscow on 12 September. They will hold talks on the problem of the unification of Germany. However, it is feared here in Lithuania that in return to [as heard] Moscow's concessions on the issue of the unification of Germany the Western powers may compromise on the question of Lithuania.

Speaking at a sitting of a state commission, the Lithuanian deputy premier, Romualdas Ozalas, expressed the view that the Moscow meeting of the heads of the great powers creates a new international situation. Today Romualdas Ozalas met representatives of various Lithuania parties and [words indistinct] warning them about a probable threat to Lithuania. It is largely (?insofar) if the Lithuanian government or parliament is going to make public its attitude to the prospective Moscow meeting. The Lithuanian parliament is due to hold discussions next Tuesday [4 September].

Meanwhile, today the participants representing Lithuanian parties at the roundtable talks have publicised an appeal entitled: The Threat to Lithuania. Its principal point is that the Moscow talks on the unification of Germany should not involve the issue of the destiny of the three Baltic states. The declaration of the representatives of the Lithuanian political parties maintains that any direct or indirect consideration and decision [word indistinct] on the destiny of the Baltics without their participation at the talks would be illegal and contrary to the international law.

The representatives of the Lithuanian political parties have urged the presidium of the Lithuanian parliament to undertake the initiative of calling a common extraordinary session of the Baltic parliament with the participation of the leaders of the states and political parties. This session should once again declare to the world the steadfast determination of the Baltic people to pursue on their course to independence.

Meanwhile, the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party has published its appeal to all the political forces of Lithuania, urging them to prepare and sign a declaration on national reconciliation. When speaking on television last night, the leader of the Lithuanian Communist Party and deputy premier of Lithuania, Algirdas Brazauskas, stressed the urgent necessity of such a declaration on the eve of the Moscow summit. Insisting on the need for consolidation of democracy in the independent Lithuania, the declaration asserts that the sacred goals can only be achieved through national reconciliation.

Prunskiene Departs Moscow for Berlin 30 Aug

LD3008100190 Vilnius Domestic Service in Lithuanian 0900 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Today, early in the morning, the prime minister of the Republic of Lithuania, Kazimiera Prunskiene, left Moscow by air for Berlin. She will take part in an international conference devoted to the problems of the Soviet Union's future.

During the conference important contacts with representatives of the Western countries are expected.

Vilkas Cited on Lithuanian-RSFSR Treaty

PM3008143590 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 3

["INTERFAX" report: "Academician E. Vilkas on the Talks With the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic and the USSR"]

[Text] Following the consultative meeting between representatives of the Lithuanian and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviets, Lithuanian delegation member Eduardas Vilkas granted an interview to the independent paper RESPUBLIKA, which is published in Vilnius.

Vilkas announced that the sides had decided to exchange the drafts of a treaty in two to three weeks' time. The next meeting in Moscow will discuss the final version of the agreement. E. Vilkas pointed out that Lithuania needs a treaty with the Union to get out of the present critical economic situation. In his opinion, as far as Vilnius is concerned, whether or not the Kremlin recognizes Lithuania politically is not as important as taking the solution of economic and financial matters into its own hands. In the hope that we will sign the Union treaty, Gorbachev will make concessions on the aforementioned matters, Academician Vilkas believes.

Lithuanian Rally Marks Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact

LD3008213190 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2020 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] [Announcer] In these days the 51st anniversary of the well-known Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact is being marked. In the Baltic, events dedicated to this date continue.

[Unidentified correspondent] An event ended today in this quiet spot in the lap of nature, not far from Vilnius. It began on the western border between Laziyskiy Rayon and Poland. In response to a call from Sajudis to support its demand that control of the borders be returned to Lithuania, a crown estimated by the organizers as up to 50,000 gathered from various parts of the Lithuanian Republic, and also from Latvia, Estonia, and the Russian Federation. There were hotheads among them, who began inciting the population to a mass crossing of the border without the permission of the border guards. Fortunately, good sense prevailed and a conflict was averted. Today in Vilnius, at the entrance to the Sajudis headquarters, people were invited to sign petitions demanding the participation of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia in the forthcoming Paris conference on European security. This was also an event in fact, but unlike the others it was not completed today. [video shows demonstrators and people signing petition]

Political Situation in Lithuania 'Contradictory'

LD3008210990 Moscow TASS in English 2026 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Yuriy Soltys]

[Text] Moscow August 31 TASS—The situation in Lithuania is contradictory, Lithuanian Communist Party (CPSU) Secretaries Mykolas Burokevicius, Vladislav Shved and Juozas Kuolelis told a briefing here on Thursday.

They noted that the political situation in the republic has aggravated recently. Rightists in the republican parliament and Sajudis, feeling that they are losing people's confidence, are stirring up nationalist hysteria.

The speakers believe this was clearly shown by the lame attempt to hold the Opening Gates to Europe action. Its organisers planned to gather some 100,000 to 200,000 people, break the Lithuanian border with Poland and announce to the world of the existence of the independent Lithuanian Republic, which does not recognise Soviet state borders. About 20,000 people participated in the action, they said.

The failure did not stop separatists, and it was followed by another provocation, the speakers said. On August 22, in a televised address, Vice President of the Lithuanian parliament Kazimieras Motieka said that the army and tanks are approaching the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee archive and that they intend to move away party documents. He turned to people for help.

On the next day, some 400 people surrounded the archive. There were no soldiers nearby. The situation could be controlled no longer, but workers' units that arrived at the request of the Lithuanian Communist Party (CPSU) balanced forces, the speakers said.

The speakers believe that these and other facts show that the Lithuanian parliament and Sajudis have lost the support of people, which they had several months ago. New leaders are using all comforts they captured from the "overthrown" bureaucratic and party apparat.

They are driving cars. The number of the parliament's service staff has been considerably increased. There are rumours that confiscated country houses will be transferred to deputies. Along the background of the worsening economic situation in the republic, shortages of priorities and food products, such behaviour adds no authority to the leaders, the speakers said.

Lithuanian residents are beginning to ponder over the events and become less prone to nationalist hysteria, as it can be clearly seen that there is a great distance from words and promises to real deeds, the speakers said.

Availability of Latvian Newspaper Announced

LD2508041890 Riga International Service in Latvian 1730 GMT 23 Aug 90

[Text] The confict with the newspaper NEATKARIGA CINA [INDEPENDENT STRUGGLE] has finally been settled. As the chief editor of the newspaper, Andris Jakubans, announced in an interview with Latvian Television yesterday, the first issue of NEATKARIGA CINA will appear tomorrow. On the evening of 22 August an agreement on printing was reached with the publishing house of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee. With that, the prolonged conflict between both Latvian Communist Parties and both these parties' newspapers has finally been settled. Jakubans also announced that an initial print run of the newspaper planned to produce 100,000 copies. The distributors did not undertake to supply this number so the print run of the first issue will be 50,000 copies.

As we already reported within a month those who read the combined CINA were able to choose which of the publications they would read. They chose between the so-called CINA of Rubiks' or of the CPSU and the Latvian branch or they chose the NEATKARIGA CINA, which has now begun to appear. The print run of the former CINA before the division was approximately 220,000 copies.

Estonia's Godmanis Reports on Moscow Talks

LD3008134490 Riga International Service in Latvian 1730 GMT 23 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Yesterday you heard a fragment of the press conference given by the head of the Latvian government, Ivars Godmanis. In it we also heard how the government is preparing to tackle the conflict that has arisen within Latvia between grain producers and the state. Ivars Godmanis also reported that, when participating in a sitting the session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium in Moscow, he succeeded in attaining agreement that the USSR fodder and grain supplies will continue—hitherto, the structure of Latvian agriculture was oriented toward imported foodstuffs.

At this session of the USSR Council of Ministers there was also discussion of various other essential questions, including the development of various mutual economic relations with further development of the present Union republics.

According to Godmanis, at the moment in Moscow there are two projects on how these relations should develop. One is being worked out by a working group that is functioning under the leadership of USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov, the other by an alternative group of scientists. [passage omitted]

Ivars Godmanis also spoke on the catastrophic economic situation throughout the Soviet Union, about difficulties with foreign exchange resources, about the growth of the external debt, and similar matters. Inasmuch as Latvia is still very closely bound to the economic structure of the USSR, as Ivars Godmanis put it, in the near future those economic spheres that work with imported raw materials might perhaps be forced to cut production by as much as 30 percent. This would affect in the first instance the light and textile industries.

So that a similar situation does not arise with raw materials imported from regions of the USSR as well, Latvia has now started to conclude direct agreements with other regions of the USSR. Such mutual agreements, which have thoroughly experienced the benefits of centralized planning—in inverted commas of course—are being mutually concluded by almost all the republics.

Latvia, as Ivars Godmanis informed, has already almost reached agreement on concluding a treaty with the Russian Federation.

In the near future Ivars Godmanis will be travelling to the Central Asian republics to discuss supplies of cotton and possibly also grain. At the same time, Ivars Godmanis noted that at the moment the Latvian government is trying to provide for itself to the maximum extent in all possible directions. By concluding direct inter-republican agreements, we are trying to find a solution acceptable to us in the form of a union of states with definite elements of economic integration, because at the moment the Latvian government has to consider in the first instance what the residents of Latvia will eat, what they will wear, and whether there will be heating in their homes in winter. We are now at the point that these questions, questions of survival in fact, are at the very top of our agenda.

Ivars Godmanis, at his press conference yesterday, also defined what are in his view the most critical points in the Latvian economy at present. [passage omitted]

Of course, such a question as that of the currently prevailing acute shortage of cigarettes, artificially exacerbated at the moment by speculators, can be solved. Much more complicated are the problems in the rural areas with and around the land. For example, not everyone will be satisfied by the attitude declared by Ivars Godmanis toward the heirs of confiscated and nationalized property, toward the relatives of repressed inhabitants. Ivars Godmanis undoubtedly is guided here by the actual economic, and possibly psychological situation in Latvia, to a certain extent bypassing the norms of international law. That was the kind of not very optimistic insight into the economy of Latvia and the whole USSR given at yesterday's press conference by Prime Minister Ivars Godmanis. However the information he provided bears witness that Latvia will welcome the approaching winter with fully procured reserves of foodstuffs, fuel, and several of the more important raw materials. And that is a lot in these times of confusion.

Estonian Representatives in Moscow for Talks

LD3008150590 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Talks between plenipotentiary representatives of the Estonian and USSR Supreme Soviets continued in Moscow today. The historic and legal aspects of the incorporation of Estonia into the USSR in 1939-40 were discussed.

Narva Communists Demand Estonian Law on Parties

LD3008130190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Communists of Narva have addressed a demand to the Communist deputies of the Estonian Supreme Soviet, saying that the elaboration of a law on parties which would guarantee equal rights to all the public and political organizations and movements in the republic should commence without delay.

The reason for their message is that on 23 August the republican press published the text of an appeal to people who were victims of the communist terror, for that is what the title of the appeal was.

It was signed by the leaders of the Estonian and Latvian committees. The Narva Communists came to the conclusion that the attacks against the Communist Party contained in the document pursue the goal of unleashing a witch-hunt against Communists and of having the party declared illegal.

RSFSR

Republic Commission Considers Draft Constitution

LD3108073890 Moscow TASS in English 0706 GMT 31 Aug 90

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Lev Aksenov]

[Text] Moscow August 31 TASS—The Constitution Commission of the Russian Federation today began to consider drafts of Russia's new constitution and to discuss a mechanism for its adoption.

The commission, headed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, was set up at the First Congress of Russian Deputies. It includes 102 parliamentary deputies.

"The commission consists of six commissions, each working on one section of the future constituion," Aleksandr Sobyanin of the commission's secretariat told TASS.

"The commission includes a standing working group of 31 members, who are assisted by a group of highly qualified lawyers and sociologists."

Sobyanin said that "each citizen of Russia can offer his own draft constitution or any of its sections. We will take into account as many interesting ideas and proposals as possible."

He said the commission plans to announce open competition between draft constitutions.

The commission is widely using Soviet and foreign legislative experience, he said.

"The first draft constitution that was sent to all commission members was the draft 'Constitution of the Union of European and Asian Republics,' prepared by Andrey Sakharov."

Deputies who are not members of the commission are also taking an active part in its work.

The draft constitution is planned to be put to a nationwide referendum this year.

Democratic Forum Scheduled for 22 Sep

LD3008104390 Moscow World Service in Russian 0930 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] USSR People's Deputy Yuriy Afanasyev, who is a member of the organizational committee of the constituent congress of Democratic Russia and the chairman of its fund, yesterday told journalists about the holding of an interrepublican forum of democratic forces on 22 September. Leaders and heads of democratically oriented political parties, of democratic factions of soviets at all levels, and of movements such as Memorial, April, and others, will be invited to the forum. At the forum, the organizational committee will put forward for discussion a program for getting our society out of its crisis. It is reported that this program will take into consideration the results of the work of a group of experts tackling the problem of the country's transition to a market economy, which was set up by the joint decision of the USSR president and the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

'Democratic Russia' Congress Set for 20-21 Oct

PM3008153390 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 3

["INTERFAX" report: "On the Upcoming Congress of the 'Democratic Russia' movement"]

[Text] At a press conference, the committee organizing the "Democratic Russia" movement's founding congress has the dates when it will be held—20-21 October 1990.

USSR People's Deputy Arkadiy Murashev has been elected organizing committee chairman. In the remaining two months the movement is to create its own structures in all regions and cities of Russia. The organizing committee members stressed that the movement is in no way seeking to become a universal party, let alone a vanguard-type party along the lines of the CPSU.

Russian Democratic Party Accused of Blackmail

LD3008111290 Moscow TASS in English 1051 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 30 TASS—A Soviet Communist Party Central Committee daily today accused the Russian Democratic Party of confronting the national parliament with an "ultimatum" and said such methods of political warfare are "inadmissible."

The newspaper RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA (WORKERS' TRIBUNE) was commenting on an "address to the USSR Supreme Soviet," signed by the Russian Democrats' board and published in the newspaper DEMOCRATICHESKAYA ROSSIYA (DEMOCRATIC RUSSIA).

The address demanded the resignation of the federal government, the nationalisation of Soviet Communist

Party property and the adoption of the Gorbachev-Yeltsin blueprint for economic reform. Otherwise, it threatened "calling for the people to stage a general strike."

"Such instigatory ultimatums go beyond the bounds of political opposition, and the tone of the address is insulting to parliamentary deputies" Dr. Pavel Papulov commented in RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA.

"In civilised countries, no self-respecting party lets itself slide so low as to engage in undisguised blackmail and ultimatums to parliament in order to remove other political parties from power.

"Nowadays, when the situation is explosive, such methods are all the more unacceptable and inadmissible," Papulov said.

Further on Polozkov News Conference on Congress

PM3008092090 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by G. Alimov on 29 August press conference at CPSU Central Committee Press Center: "I. Polozkov's First 50 Days"]

[Text] The second stage of the Russian Communist Party Founding Congress opens 4 September. A press conference was given at the CPSU Central Committee Press Center 29 August by members of the forum's preparatory committee.

As I. Polozkov, first secretary of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party Central Committee, reported, there are many questions on the agenda. The sittings will begin with the report of the credentials commission—there have been a number of changes in the body of delegates. Russia's Communists will discuss the party's action program and there will be further elections to the Central Committee, the ratification of the provision on the Central Auditing Commission, and elections of the Central Auditing Commission and Control Commission.

The Russian Communists' leader stated that the Russian Communist Party adheres firmly to the 28th CPSU Congress platform and advocates the resolute restructuring of Russian society, the revival of its statehood, culture, and national traditions, an improved level of prosperity, and an improvement in friendship and cooperation among the peoples of the republic and the Soviet Union.

I. Polozkov dwelt particularly on the question of the transition to the market. He stressed that this is the main question of concern to every Communist and every person. What is the RSFSR Communist Party's standpoint?

"Let me make it clear: The Communist Party is in favor of a market system, an organized, socialist market based on healthy competition and serving the working people's interests," I. Polozkov said. "We are in favor of a policy of direct state influence on the resolution of strategic tasks, technical progress, and the development of basic sectors."

The Russian Communists' leader noted that the Communist Party will defend the working people's interests. At the same time, I. Polozkov said, democratic consensus and the normal democratic process can only be ensured in political dialogue with other political parties. But despite our clear standpoints, he noted, some people are trying to insist on a struggle of strength with the RSFSR Communist Party, trying to kindle passions and set us against other political currents and the workers' movement.

"They are obviously very afraid that a renewed Communist Party will receive the support of the working people at the grass roots. And I have no doubt of that," I. Polozkov said.

Asked about the possible postponement of the second stage of the congress, he said: "We are already late in holding it."

"Much has already been neglected in the formation and work of the Russian Communist Party. To postpone it until even later would therefore mean undermining the Communists' faith in the very idea of the creation of a Russian Communist Party, because they expect action from it," I. Polozkov stressed.

In connection with the opinions that are being voiced on the need for a new election of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, he said this:

"Let us ask what grounds there are for raising the question of new elections. For the first time in the party's history, the first secretary was elected by the most democratic means—by all the congress delegates, on a contested basis, in a secret ballot. If some people do not like the first secretary as an individual, that is another matter. If this question arises at the congress, I will address it properly."

Asked by IZVESTIYA's correspondent how he feels in his new post, who is helping him, and who advises him, I. Polozkov said:

"Questions are usually asked about results after the first 100 days in a job, but I am being asked before even 50 working days are up. Official aides have been appointed for me. For advice I turn to specialists, scientists, and the members of the preparatory committee for the second stage of the RSFSR Communist Party Founding Congress. These are mainly the people who advise me. We argue a lot, and sometimes the arguments continue after midnight. It was in the course of these arguments that the program document that has been published was drafted. I can state firmly that this document was formulated by the efforts of the public—there are scientists, workers, rerpesentatives of the creative intelligentsia, peasants. There are more than 300 of them. So I have people to

advise me. There are also representatives of Moscow, Leningrad, Gorkiy, Saratov, and other regions of the republic."

Komi ASSR Supreme Soviet Declares Sovereignty

Extraordinary Session Held

LD3008131690 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1200 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] An extraordinary session of the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet has adopted a declaration on state sovereignty.

Deputies Speak 'Heatedly'

LD3008193890 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] The extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet of the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic [ASSR] ended in Syktyvkar today. Our correspondent Yevgeniy Zubarev reports:

[Zubaraev] In the white heat of stirred up passions, I think, that session is unequalled in the history of the republic. The deputies spoke heatedly and frankly. They spoke with interest of the action program of the Komi ASSR Government in the conditions of the transition of the republic to the market economy and of the state sovereignty of the Komi Republic. The draft of both of these most important documents were published in good time in the local press. They were discussed rather actively and for a rather long time. However, neither the program nor even the so-called concept of the government's transition to the market economy came to pass at this session. They were carried over to the next one.

However, participants in the session adopted the declaration on the state sovereignty of the republic. The deputies decided that that declaration is the basis for the elaboration of a new constitution of the Komi Soviet Socialist Republic. I am talking to Yuriy Alekseyevich Spiridonov, USSR people's deputy and chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Komi ASSR.

[Zubarev] Yuriy Alekseyevich, amplification is required. Well, the word autonomous has been excluded from the name of the republic. Has that concept of autonomy been compromised?

[Spridonov] Having declared a national state structure and having determined such a formula as autonomous republic, we made a good shield. There was no statehood, we never had anything at our disposal, and we declared our soverignty, our statehood. We do not lay claims on the status of Union republic. We lay claims to the status of republic as a state formation which enters into contractual relations with Russia and other republics of our country and with the union of the SSR. I would translate the word sovereignty as responsibility. That, in my opinion, is not so much a right as a duty, our duty to our population, to our people. We consider that the population of the republic, if it is a republic, should know just one government—its own. And tomorrow, there will be no nodding one's head at Moscow, the Union, or the tense international situation. We and we alone are responsible for how our people live. That is very responsible.

Declaration Detailed

LD3008190790 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Makarov]

[Text] Syktyvkar, Komi, August 30 TASS—The parliament of the Komi Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic in northern Russia adopted a declaration on sovereignty at an extraordinary session here today.

It was said at the session that the declaration would serve as the basis for drafting a new Komi constitution and other laws and concluding treaties with other state entities in the country.

The declaration excluded the word "autonomous" from the republic's name as "infringing on the rights of people living on the republic's territory and placing the republic at a disadvantage as compared with other state entities".

The declaration describes Komi as a "sovereign national state and a voluntary member of the Russian Federation and the Soviet Union on the basis of concluded treaties guaranteeing the legal and economic equality of all its citizens, irrespective of nationality.

"The Komi population includes citizens of all nationalities living on its territory," the declaration says. "The Komi Soviet Socialist Republic introduces its own citizenship and, at the same time, guarantees each Komi citizen the right to preserve the citizenship of the Russian Federation or the Soviet Union.

"A decision on the republic's withdrawal from Russia or the Soviet Union should be taken by a referendum."

Komi declared that its constitution and laws take precedence over those of the Soviet Union or Russia, and that land, the bowels of the earth, water, air, space, the flora, the fauna and other natural wealth, as well as cultural monuments on its territory are its own property.

The declaration says that two state languages—Komi and Russian—will be equally used in the republic.

The session also discussed the Komi government's concept of measures to increase the republic's economic and political independence and its transition to a market economy.

Tatar ASSR Adopts Sovereignty Declaration

LD3108060690 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0542 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow, 31 Aug (TASS)—The Supreme Soviet of the Tatar Autonomous Republic, which is part of the Russian Federation, has adopted a declaration on the republic's state sovereignty.

One morning and two evening sessions were needed by the parliament to adopt unanimously this most important decision for Tataria's destiny. From now on, the former Tatar ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic] has been proclaimed the Tatar Soviet Socialist Republic. The decision adopted is a basis for developing a constitution for the republic and for a mechanism for its legal, political, and economic relations with the USSR and RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic]. This work is headed by the republic's Supreme Soviet and government and envisages a nationwide discussion of the most important questions of state establishment. This has been reported today by the newspaper TRUD.

Kalugin Discusses People's Deputy Campaign

LD3008110890 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1023 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow, 30 Aug (TASS)—In the first stage of the election for USSR people's deputy, I sensed powerful support from the population of Krasnodar Kray: One million of them voted for me, former KGB General Oleg Kalugin, stripped of his rank for criticizing the activities of the Soviet secret services, said in an interview for SOBESEDNIK weekly. He is standing for USSR people's deputy in the Krasnodar national-territorial constituency and gained 45 percent of the vote in the first round, while his rival gained 10 percent.

In Oleg Kalugin's opinion, the local authorities have done all they can to prevent him from entering the second round. They have disrupted meetings with voters, switched off microphones at rallies, and have tried to make noise.

He said that a group of KGB workers arrived from Moscow and conducted an energetic anti-Kalugin campaign in the kray.

Oleg Kalugin reported that in the course of the election campaign he was getting help from several KGB employees, who arrived in Krasnodar on their own initiative. "Many people help by providing information on the situation in security bodies in different regions of the country, which provides an opportunity to conclude that there is no internal unity in the ranks of this mighty organization." Oleg Kalugin said he knows nothing about the progress of the investigation into his disclosure of secret information, but he stressed that he has prepared new facts for the public hearing of his case.

The second round of the elections will take place on 2 September. Some of the country's central newspapers reported today that Kalugin's rival, Gorovoy, former chairman of the Krasnodar agricultural and industrial union [agropromsoyuz], was elected chairman of the kray executive committee, which, allegedly, increases his chances in the struggle for a deputy's seat.

Frustrated Passengers Seize Aeroflot Plane

LD3108100290 Moscow TASS in English 0924 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Moscow August 31 TASS—Passengers seized an Aeroflot plane in the airport of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, the Soviet Far East, demanding that they be taken home to the Kuril island of Iturup, PRAVDA reports today.

The unprecedented operation was led by Vladimir Kashpuk, deputy chairman of the Kuril local council.

PRAVDA describes the seizure as a gesture of despair by people who were exhausted by many days of flight delays and by endless wrangling with flight officials.

When their AN-24 did fly home and approached the Iturup runway, it could not land due to unfavourable weather conditions and had to return to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk.

This exhausted the passengers' patience. They said they would not leave the plane until they were taken home.

The war of nerves continued until late at night when the crew had to go home.

The newspaper reports that transport problems have long plagued the Kurils.

"The Kuril airports of Burevestnik and Mendeleyevo cannot even be described as such. Their runways remind one of a car testing range," PRAVDA says.

City Official Urges Special Status for Moscow

PM3008143190 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 29 Aug 90 p 10

[Report on undated interview with Moscow City Soviet Deputy Chairman Sergey Stankevich by Michael Winiarski: "Young Leader on the Way Up. Moscow's Deputy Mayor a Popular Television Profile"]

[Text] Moscow—A 36-year-old with a doctorate in U.S. political history and of distant Polish extraction is on his way to becoming the foremost young leader in the Soviet Union.

This summer Sergey Stankevich has had something of a public breakthrough, thanks mostly to television which is a medium he knows how to use.

Since May—when the Communist Party in Moscow was forced into opposition—he has been the capital's deputy mayor. There are those who are already saying that he is

suitable for higher tasks. Some have even whispered about the post of prime minister after Nikolay Ryzhkov, whom many people consider played out.

While Moscow's popular mayor, Gavriil Popov, has been on vacation Stankevich has stayed at his post and grappled with all of Moscow's serious problems. The days have been long. The reward is that he is becoming immensely popular--perhaps not yet as popular as Boris Yeltsin, but in the same class as radical politicians like Gavriil Popov and Leningrad mayor Anatoliy Sobchak.

Stankevich has appeared on Moscow's television channel almost every evening. In his quietly spoken way he has discussed with Muscovites how to organize food and housing.

Late one evening a couple of weeks ago he was seen on television urging Muscovites to go out into the country and help harvest vegetables that are rotting in the fields. A week later the television cameras accompanied him to a meeting with angry demonstrators outside an empty cigarette store. He promised to find the money, and now 30 fully loaded railroad cars of cigarettes are on their way to Moscow's gasping smokers.

It is clear that Sergey Stankevich has decided to break with the traditional image of a Soviet intellectual and politician who utters fine words but achieves nothing practical.

When I met Sergey Stankevich at Moscow's Grand City Hall on Tver Street (formerly Gorkiy Street) he looked tired. But he is full of optimism and spoke urgently about the political prospects in the Soviet Union.

Stankevich sees—a little surprisingly—a fruitful cooperation between Mikhail Gorbachev and those who recently broke with the Soviet Communist Party. Stankevich was one of them.

"Serious attempts are being made to create a new strategic alliance between Gorbachev's moderate reformists and the radical democratic movement led by Boris Yeltsin," he said.

"It is the absence of this agreement that has been the foremost obstacle to thoroughgoing reforms."

His optimism is based on the fact that at the end of July the Soviet president appeared definitely to choose sides between the conservatives and the radicals. Gorbachev buried the hatchet in the struggle with his constant rival, Boris Yeltsin, at least for the time being.

Together the two presidents set up a group of experts who were given the task of working out the basic details of the transition to a market economy. If everything goes according to plan, the group's proposals will be handed over later this week.

"I think that Gorbachev still has real potential, both intellectually and in terms of his political will," Stankevich said.

"If he follows up this movement in the direction of the radicals and we can get this alliance to work in the longer term, we will have a completely different force in the reform process."

The economic reform proposals which the Gorbachev-Yeltsin expert group puts forward will form the foundation for the draft of a new Union treaty, to be made public by the end of September.

On this point Sergey Stankevich's view is clear: It is pointless to try to find a common economic mechanism for all parts of the Soviet empire.

"Conditions in the Baltic region and in Asia, for example, are so different that different sorts of reforms are needed," he said.

According to Stankevich, the antagonisms between various Union republics are so strong and irreconcilable that it will be impossible to hold the Soviet Union together.

He has a vision of a future union that Gorbachev and his advisers are hardly likely to be ready to accept.

"I think that the three Slav republics—Russia, the Ukraine, and Belorussia—can be united in a federative union. They will form the nucleus of the union. All other republics can decide what relationship they want to have with this union: federal relations, a looser confederation, or total separation."

Stankevich does not think that there is any great cause for concern—regardless of what the eventual membership of the new union is. He is convinced that the nucleus—the three Slav republics that are held together by a common history, language, and culture—will nevertheless be able to solve its economic and other problems.

His present post of deputy chairman of the Moscow City Soviet is difficult enough: trying to get a city of 9.5 million inhabitants to function and keep turning over economically. If you count the whole of the greater Moscow region almost as many people—16 million—live here as in the whole of Scandinavia.

Stankevich thinks that Moscow ought really to be self-sufficient. Technically the city has a relatively well developed industry, airports, ports, and well developed agriculture. But Moscow is weighed down by the double burden of being the capital of both the Soviet Union and the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic.

This means that all Soviet and Russian ministries and a gigantic, largely nonproductive, dual administration have to be supported and housed by Moscow, without any compensation to the city. To say nothing of the Communist Party with its countless buildings, for which it too pays no rent. But, Stankevich pointed out, it will soon have to.

"Moscow must have a special legal status where we have control over the resources here. This does not of course mean that we intend to secede from Russia or the Soviet Union. But a status like that of a Union republic is necessary for us to be able to develop and, for example, offer enterprises, foreign businessmen, and tourists acceptable conditions in which to live and work," Sergey Stankevich said.

Stankevich's uncomfortable truths

On the Communist opposition in the Moscow Soviet:

"They have the advantage of being in opposition when unpopular political measures are needed. Ideologically I have nothing in common with them. They blame what has happened on personal mistakes. But it is Marxism-Leninism that has shown itself to be a single, huge mistake."

On how Muscovites' problems with food, housing, and consumer goods can be solved:

"Without a normal market system—never. That is what we want and are trying to speed up. Moscow must lead the way. First we will take the property of the ministries and the bureaucracy, and then the assets will be privatized."

On how privatization will happen:

"We want to help independent entrepreneurs to set up. We can privatize the gas stations. Banks are also needed, and we have now split off the Moscow section of the state foreign trade bank and turned it into a commercial bank. The problems is that 60 percent of the inhabitants work for various authorities, so thousands of people will find themselves on the streets."

On the growing social problems:

"The homeless and the beggars generally come from other parts of the country. They believe that Moscow offers a solution to their problems. In the short term there is no solution here; we are going to have to live with this for several years."

On how the environment in Moscow is to be improved:

"Things are not as dirty here as in Tokyo, New York, or Mexico City. It is only certain parts of the city that are seriously polluted. But we intend gradually to move environmentally damaging industry out from the city, close off the center to heavy trucks, and restrict automobile traffic by introducing parking charges."

On poor road maintenance:

"We invited a private company to repair the roads and have put every resource at their disposal. They are working night and day and the street picture has already changed. We will continue to put work out to private companies. Then we will also be able to demonstrate that these are the most efficient in the work for the good of the city."

Kaliningrad Free Trade Zone Plan Resisted

904A0564A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by IZVESTIYA special correspondent V. Reshetnikov: "Will the 'Closed' Zone Become a Free Trade Zone?"]

[Text] **Kaliningrad Oblast is faced with a paradoxical situation: The territory that the Russian parliament declared a free trade zone is nothing but a top secret military area.**

I have to admit that being a native of this "country of rains and military units," as it is known among its residents, I took the news of the "free economic zone" with a grain of salt. My nostalgic memories, for instance, are forever tied with the roar of tanks moving to their exercises at the break of dawn, or with the rattling of school windowpanes as fighter planes break the sound barrier above the city. A child, I thought, identifies all this with playing war. But what is a business-minded person to do in such an atmosphere?

Such were my thoughts as I was going to Kaliningrad. I must say at once that nobody laid my doubts to rest there. What is more, my conversations with the representatives of local authorities and of "competent organs" regarding the future of the oblast were most disappointing.

On one hand the oblast has a lot going for it. It has an extraordinarily profitable geographical location. It could become the crossing of sea and land trade routes between West Europe and Scandinavian countries. Western experts also mention such an important factor as Kaliningrad's location on the line connecting countries of West Europe with the Kola peninsula, with its immense resources of raw materials. The oblast can also successfully develop tourism. Optimistic predictions in this area are supported by the mere fact of thousands of foreign tourists illegally visiting the oblast every year. Most of them are West Germans who used to live in this part of Prussia. As you know, its territory was divided between the USSR and Poland after the war.

But on the other hand all these exciting plans shatter against the unsurmountable barriers caused by the fact that the oblast is full of military hardware and "defense-related" industries.

Here is one example that helps explain how contradictory the situation is in the oblast. Deputies of the Kaliningrad City Soviet decided to open the city. TASS spread the sensational information around the entire world and Western business people took it quite seriously. Many of them believed in the realistic fruits of perestroyka and flooded the city authorities with tempting offers to build hotels, develop tourism, and even to resume the railroad traffic between Berlin and Koenigsberg. There were also offers to open airlines between Kaliningrad and the capitals of West European

countries. On top of all that the Hamburg tourist company "Startours" got the approval of the Kaliningrad mayor and altered the route of its ship the Caledonian Star, which was on a cruise around the Baltic Sea. The inclusion of a new port of call brought a frenzied demand for tickets for the cruise in West Germany. But everything came to a halt just as suddenly as it started.

City Soviet Chairman N. Khromenko told me how it all happened. At the beginning it all resembled, as I understood, some political show. The minister of defense reacted to the deputies' decision immediately: He sent a coded ultimatum to the mayor of Kaliningrad demanding that the decision be canceled. Khromenko received the message and... told nobody about it. That is, he did what he was supposed to do in a case like this—the telegram was stamped "top secret" and therefore he had to keep his mouth shut. The Ministry of Defense did not get an answer. Then they must have realized their blunder and sent the same message—unstamped this time—by courier service. The deputies did not rescind their decision. But in the given situation the opinion of the military carried more weight. It looked as if the city authorities were given to understand that the USSR Law on Local Self-Administration on which they had based their decision could be applied in the entire Kaliningrad Oblast only after the military gave their nod of approval.

These are the results. The stream of proposals from Western entrepreneurs dried out as they became convinced that the TASS information was fake. There was a scandal on board the ship which had already left for the cruise. The USSR KGB leadership did not find it possible to allow the Caledonian Star to enter Kaliningrad port in spite of the request by top Russian leaders. The organizer of the tour found his reputation damaged and lost money too. Kaliningrad itself "suffered" considerably from this as it was supposed to receive 195,000 Deutsche marks and $15,000 from the call of the foreign ship and one-day tours for the passengers. The mayor of Kaliningrad made an official promise to pay the "lost" money back to the firm on account of future cooperation—when the city becomes an open one. Therefore, we can double the amount of losses incurred to the city.

According to N. Khromenko, the public opinion poll showed clearly that the overwhelming majority of Kaliningrad residents support the idea of making Kaliningrad an open city and creating a free trade zone. So, the push to freedom displayed by the deputies reflected, to a degree, the opinion of the people, who are tired of their beggarly, half-starved existence.

But the leaders of the oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, as I understood, consider that freedom can be given to the oblast solely by Moscow. When talking to me, Yu. Malinkin, chairman of the oblast soviet, and his deputy, L. Demachev, did not try to conceal their opposition to the actions of the city soviet leaders. They also displayed their skepticism with regard to the very possibility of opening the oblast from "below." In April of this year the oblast soviet sent a request to open the oblast to the USSR Council of Ministers. It was officially denied. That means they have to send another request, quoting this time the decision of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet, i.e. they want to use only this way and no other.

The local UGB [KGB Administration] is not too happy about the "independence" of the city soviet deputies either. Acting administration head V. Troitskiy uttered a sentence which, in my view, reflected the present contradictory situation in the oblast as if in a mirror: "The city soviet relies on the Law on Local Self-Administration, and I rely on the Law on State Borders!" V. Troitskiy showed us that the Kaliningrad KGB officials are simply unprepared to work within the framework of a free trade zone. They are already run off their feet trying to prevent illegal visits of foreigners to the oblast. And speaking of the future, one cannot expect any comforting prognosis.

So, in whose interests was it to take Kaliningrad Oblast residents hostage? On behalf of his superiors A. Leonov, deputy department head of the USSR KGB, described the KGB position to me. It could be expressed as follows. Deputies of the Kaliningrad Oblast Soviet sent a repeat request to open the oblast to the USSR Government. Within the next few days the Ministry of Defense will submit its ideas on the problem, as discussed with the KGB, to the USSR Council of Ministers.

I was told to seek further commentary at the USSR Ministry of Defense, as in this case it was the interests of this particular ministry that outweighed the interests of other "involved" agencies.

I telephoned Colonel General V. Denisov, a directorate chief of the USSR Ministry of Defense Armed Forces General Staff, and asked for a meeting. The answer I received was quite discouraging. Vladimir Georgiyevich called the IZVESTIYA staff "versemongers" and declared that neither he nor anyone else would provide any information concerning the ministry's position on the issue. "The information as approved by the entire chain of command" would be made public "when necessary" through TASS. The colonel general recommended that our newspaper print "what was necessary" and announced: "Everything will come back yet, comrade! And you will bite your tongues yet!" On that note, far from optimistic, the conversation ended.

I am very sorry that I can offer Kaliningrad Oblast residents nothing more comforting than the gist of this conversation. The basic position of the Defense Ministry remained unclear: Do they agree or disagree with the deputies, and if they agree—then on what conditions: to open the entire oblast or part of it or preserve some "closed" spots in it?

To be honest with you, I do not quite understand what should "come back," as Colonel General V. Denisov put it. I would be happy to hear his clarification of this point, even in a personal letter. I want to note only that "About

turn! Quick march!" is not the best way to communicate with the press. Notions of "secrecy" to which V. Denisov also referred can persuade only few people now. It has happened just too often that "secrecy" has served as a coverup for a most ordinary mess in agencies. IZVESTIYA wrote many times about the problem of "closed" territories, which until very recently were gigantic in size. We often heard about the damage to "state interests," unavoidable if one or another area were opened. But now we have considerably fewer "border zones." What happened? The fear for "state interests" was rather exaggerated.

It is now important to understand the situation in Kaliningrad Oblast and to make a prognosis, with the opinions of the "involved" sides taken into account. And for that it is rather important to know what arguments the Defense Ministry would use to support its point of view when speaking to the government. The local population would like to know also, and not because they are simply curious by nature.

The last word should be spoken by the Union government. They will either confirm their previous decrees on the special status of the oblast or revise them taking into account the internal political changes. It is easy to understand from a purely human point of view how the deputies were tempted by their power to look at the mess of the decades and try to untangle it in a minute. But the problem is that there is no single answer to the question as to who is the master in the oblast. The interests of the people, of the Defense Ministry, and of the USSR KGB are all intertwined here. This is the reality and we have to account for it. Evidently, we cannot do without compromises. The reality demands, unfortunately, that each side gives up some of its interests—at least, for a given period of time.

Moscow To Sell Tobacco at 'Commercial Prices'

PM3108093790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Aug 90 Second Edition p 6

[PRAVDA-TASS report: "Even Misfortune Costing More"]

[Text] As of 1 September cigarettes in Moscow will be issued on ration coupons. This decision has been taken by the Moscow City Soviet.

But given the absence not just of tobacco but also of coupons, tobacco will be distributed against December sugar coupons at the rate of five packs per month. However, reader, if you are not a smoker yourself and you do not want to make a present of your sugar-tobacco chit to your boss, friends, or relatives or pay for the services of a plumber, for example, with this scarce piece of paper, you will benefit twice over. In the new year you will get four whole kilos of sugar instead of two for your December sugar coupon!

But there is a doubt here: Have all the details of the innovation been worked through at the Moscow City Soviet? After all, some ne'er-do-wells will convert the sugar surplus into hooch, not tobacco. At the same time it is well known that the more people drink, the more they smoke. So will not there be an even bigger run on tobacco at the end of the year?

...A number of other emergency measures have also been taken. Tobacco factories in Moscow have begun packing the nicotine drug in 300-gram packets. They will be sold at the price of 3.70 rubles [R]. Well, well, commercial prices are being introduced now for Soviet cigarettes too. So Kosmos will cost R3 and Yava R1.

If the new methods do not placate smokers, the Moscow City Soviet is ready to do the same thing with the October and November sugar coupons.

An important addition: If you, reader, express the desire to go and do agricultural work, you will be provided with tobacco for the period of weeding and harvesting the crop—not gratis, but without coupons. This provision applies to people from other cities too.

Tobacco Rioters To Be Fined 20,000 Rubles

LD3008111590 Moscow World Service in Russian 0930 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Anatoliy Sobchak, chairman of the Leningrad Soviet of People's Deputies, speaking on local television, stated that by decision of the soviet, the organizers and participants of tobacco riots in Leningrad, which have become large-scale of late, will henceforth be fined 20,000 rubles and that cars used to organize and hold disturbances will be confiscated and subsequently auctioned off.

Harvest Emergency Declared in Khabarovsk Kray

LD3008144590 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] An emergency has been declared in Khabarovsk Kray. Because of prolonged monsoon rains, the water level of the Amur and its tributaries has sharply risen, which has created a real threat to the harvest in the main agricultural districts. The emergency commission has demanded the dispatch from towns and rayon centers of all workers, students, schoolchildren, vocational college pupils, and of extra equipment to sponsored state and collective farms. It has been declared necessary to halt work of enterprises, institutions, and organizations not connected with production until 2 September.

Moscow's Vegetable Procurements Detailed

904D0212A Moscow SOVETSKAYA TORGOVLYA in Russian No 15, 16-31 Aug 90 Special Issue pp 1, 4

[Article by Marina Tsareva: "'There Will Be No Problems...' But Will There Be Vegetables?"]

[Text] Even in the spring specialists were predicting an unprecedented crop. In the summer the predictions were

confirmed. But we can rejoice in this only theoretically: For some reason the abundance of vegetables has not reached the shelves of the stores. Even as compared to last year, which was far from the most favorable in this respect, there are fewer vegetables in the stores. And the statistics give weighty confirmation to our subjective "shopping bag" conclusions.

In 1989, 2.4 million tons of potatoes and fruit and vegetable products were delivered to Moscow. This year contracts have been concluded for delivery to the capital of only about 2 million tons. Thus even the plan which has been reduced as compared to last year (approximately 2.2 million tons) is not being fulfilled by the Glavmosplodoovoshchprom [Main Moscow Administration of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry].

"The reason is that this year Moscow has begun to change over to a principally new form of procurements," says the deputy chief of Glavmosplodoovoshchprom, A.Ya. Titov. "All 24 wholesale-retail production associations have been given the right to conclude agreements directly with the suppliers. As it turns out, this is not so simple. Many suppliers, for example, insist on barter transactions. You yourself understand that we do not have the funds for this. It would apparently make sense to allot 10-12 percent of the products produced in Moscow to be singled out for these purposes.

Moreover, a large proportion of the suppliers are offering their products at contract prices while we have to sell them at prices established by the Moscow Soviet, that is, basically at state prices (only a few stores have been granted the right to sell at contract prices). The losses of income resulting from this "squeeze" are estimated at 676 million rubles and 17 of the 24 wholesale-retail production associations are operating at a loss. The difference between the wholesale and retail prices should be made up for by the local budgets but, as we know, they themselves are impoverished. The Kuznetskiy Rayon Ispolkom [executive committee] has already adopted a decision concerning trade at prices that avoid losses, that is at contract prices.

We have now made the following suggestion to the Moscow Soviet and the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] State Committee for Prices: to draw up a list of products for which maximum permissible prices will be set (obviously it should include potatoes, onions, carrots, cabbage, and beets) and the rest of the vegetables can be sold at contract prices. The Moscow Soviet is in no hurry to make any decision even though the Ministry of Finance has already allotted 450 million rubles to Moscow to subsidize the underprivileged. I do not think it is in our interests to delay the resolution of this issue because the main difficulties in concluding agreements arise because of the fact that the buyers and sellers cannot agree on a price.

But the residents of the capital do not even see on the shelves what seems to be the miserly amount guaranteed by the agreements.

According to data of the RSFSR Gosagroprom [State Agro-Industrial Complex], as of 7 August 1990 the amounts actually shipped to Moscow and Leningrad (in percentages of the plan for deliveries as of 1 September) were:

Potatoes—seven and two, respectively; cabbage—58 and 39; large onions—zero and zero; tomatoes—86 and eight; beets—48 and 10; pomes (apples, pears)—23 and 31; fruits with stones—56 and 67; berries—33 and 10; and melon crops—five and seven.

Incidentally, I am afraid that even these figures approximately reflect the real situation. Thus, according to these data, the plan for deliveries of cucumbers to Moscow was fulfilled by 101 percent, although the Muscovites have seen practically none of them this season except for in the markets.

Among the main reasons why, with a theoretical abundance of vegetables in the field, the shelves are empty, the Glavmosplodoovoshchprom has given the imprecision of the filling out of the agreements and also the lack of discipline of the suppliers. There is not enough packaging: Thus for tomatoes we need more than 7 million additional boxes and for watermelons—101,000 additional containers. And, finally, there are not enough working hands to harvest the crops. In Moscow Oblast alone each year we need 5,860 assistants, while the city actually assigns only about 2,500 people. In spite of the almost threefold increase in the payment for patronage assistance and the payment in kind that is added to it, volunteers are in no hurry to respond.

I doubt that information about the reasons has in any way compensated for the lack of vitamins in my diet at the height of the season. The more so since even for that minimal quantity of vegetables that have been delivered to the capital Muscovites have to stand in lines. This summer only 1,266 points of the summer trade network (stalls, pavilions, and so forth) of the intended 1,900 are in operation.

"This season we have been unable to make agreements with the students; usually they have helped us during the season," explains A.Ya. Titov. "We have not managed to recruit enough pensioners and housewives to work either. They have now allotted a half million rubles for the organization of the small retail trade network—for paying volunteer assistants. We think the stalls are still being opened."

And this is why we, standing in a "queue" under the scorching sun or in the rain, can still hope that the summer will not pass before the trade in vegetables is finally organized.

But even after delving into all the serious problems of Glavmosplodoovoshchprom one would still like to have concrete information of the most ordinary kind: "Will there be any or not?..."

"...potatoes?

"There is no problem with potatoes. It is just a matter of organizing trade intelligently. We have now shipped 11,562 tons to the bases (compare: the daily sales amount to 800-900 tons). And 600-700 tons are shipped in each day."

"...tomatoes?"

"There will be no problem with tomatoes. Moscow has already received 49 trainloads of Astrakhan tomatoes and there are another 29 trainloads on the way."

(Note that at this same time last year 79 trainloads of Astrakhan tomatoes had arrived and 12 were on the way).

"...cucumbers?"

"Unfortunately, nothing can be done here—the train, as they say, has left."

"...squash?"

"Of the 6,000 tons earmarked for delivery in June-July, only 1,400 tons have been shipped. But they are now beginning to ripen in the Moscow area. We hope the situation will improve."

"...watermelons and cantaloupe?"

"There will be no problem with them, really."

"...onions and garlic?"

"The planned deliveries are just about to begin.

"...fruits?"

"Unfortunately the frosts in Moldavia took a large share of the crop. According to predictions Moldavia will be able to send us 61 percent of the pome crops and only 47 percent of the stone fruits that were agreed upon and 80 percent of the grapes. Not a single kilogram of stone fruits was delivered to us from Dagestan or Stavropol Kray in June-July. During the first two months of summer Muscovites were to have received 5,000 tons of stone fruits while in reality only 200 tons reached their tables. According to figures of the RSFSR Gosagroprom, this year Moscow will fail to receive the following amounts as compared to the plan (which was reduced, as you will recall): potatoes—4,000 tons, vegetables—59,000 tons, fruits and berries—10,000 tons, and for Leningrad these figures are 13,000, 136,900, and 3,800 tons, respectively.

After this article had already been finished V.V. Buntov, deputy chairman of the Gorkiy Oblast Consumers' Union, called the editorial office. He had already spent two days knocking on the doors of the Moscow chiefs.

"We had an agreement with Glavmosplodoovoshchprom for the five-year plan, including 1990, for the delivery of large onions to the capital. This year the main board is refusing to extend the agreement. I do not know what we are going to do with 1,300 tons of them now. They explained this by saying that Moscow's needs are satisfied with deliveries from Kirghizia, and the onions from the south are also cheaper. But, in the first place, Kirghizia and Kazakhstan supply sweet strains that are not suitable for extended storage. And our onions are strong and can be stored until the next harvest. And the reference to the cost of our onions is unconvincing: We sell them at the state price of 50 kopeks. I hope we will not have to explain why we cannot sell them, say, in May."

Chita's Vegetable Stores 'as Empty as Ever'

PM3008144390 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Report by A. Bardo and N. Osipov from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] In Chita Oblast, where the grain harvest has not yet begun and the vegetable and potato harvest is just beginning, most rayon and city soviet executive committees have already set up emergency staffs.

[Reporter] [video shows meeting] These men have been given wide-ranging rights—the right to involve people and equipment from any enterprise, organization, or institution in agricultural work, and, under special circumstances, the right even to halt those organizations' activities. The need for radical measures has been recognized and is not in doubt. In Chita, for instance, the situation has been exacerbated by an appeal from the leaders of five local sovkhozes [state farms]. It was essentially an ultimatum—if the city did not help the countryside, they would stop supplying produce. And, as of next year, output will be strictly linked to the existence of material, technical, and labor resources. [video shows market scenes] Regrettably, this is a familiar situation. And the Transbaykal area is no exception in this respect. But, even so, it is surprising that vegetable displays in the city market are as empty as ever despite the good harvest, which was admittedly affected by flooding. It is already clear that, until normal economic relations are established and mutually advantageous contracts are concluded between those growing the potatoes and those lifting them, the problem will not be solved. Yet Chita already has experience, albeit on a small scale, of businesslike cooperation between people in town and country. This vegetable store, for instance, differs advantageously from other similar trading enterprises. Fresh cabbage, peppers, cucumbers, potatoes, and everything produced by the local Kinoski sovkhoz are always available here nowadays. This abundance is the result of a direct contract between the sovkhoz and Chita's Zheleznodorozhnyy Rayon Soviet Executive Committee. This is probably the first time that soviet authorities have acted as a full economic partner.

Vodka Shortage Prompts Riot in Chelyabinsk

904D0212B Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 Aug 90 First Edition p 3

[Report by TASS correspondent Ye. Tkachenko: "Attack on the Department Stores"]

[Text] Chelyabinsk, 23 Aug (TASS)—It was not until this morning that the passions that had flared up last night in Kurchatovskiy Rayon of Chelyabinsk died down. The results were sad: 11 police workers and one civilian received injuries of varying degrees of seriousness, 13 police cars were damaged, and 58 people, including many adolescents, were arrested for gross disturbance of public order.

In the largest department store in the city, Severo-Zapadnyy, as usual an immense waiting line had formed for alcoholic beverages. But the trading did not begin—the salesmen blamed it on the lack of a police order. Nobody explained to the people the exact reason for the delay and after a couple of hours of "standing around" a rock flew through the glass display window of the store. This served as a signal for the drunken hooligans.

The crowd, which had grown to several hundred people, blocked off Komsomolskiy Prospekt and stopped the movement of the trolleys and buses. Having climbed onto the roofs of the cars that were stopped, the more zealous ringleaders shouted slogans demanding vodka and meat. The rebels decided to "attack" the rayon ispolkom [executive committee] which was in the vicinity, breaking its sign and display windows. No persuasion from the police or representatives of the city ispolkom helped. It was then necessary to use force, calling on a special police detachment for help.

Ufa Rally Calls for Chemical Plant Closure

LD3008215290 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Today thousands of Ufa residents came out for an authorized rally that had been organized by a joint committee of public organizations and the Kirovskiy Rayon CPSU Committee. Until late in the evening people were standing outside the building of the social and political center with placards and slogans: We do not trust the government of Bashkiriya, which is being led by the Union ministries! People's deputies! What are you waiting for? Urgently support the decisions of the session of the Ufa City Soviet of People's Deputies on closing down chemical production. If you do not solve the ecological problems in the near future, we will solve them ourselves!

A few days ago an ecological accident happened in Ufa. The phenol and acetone production unit at the synthetic alcohol works exploded. The air, water, and soil are poisoned. Over 120 people have been hospitalized with injuries and burns. Residents were left without drinking water. The citizens of Neftekamsk, situated at a distance of 200 km from Bashkiriya's capital, came in buses to support the rally of Ufa residents.

Western Republics

Belorussian Delegate Views Treaty Talks

PM3108092790 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Aug 90 Second Edition p 2

[Interview with V. Sholodonov, deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet, by A. Ulitenok in Minsk under the "Our Interviews" rubric; date not given: "Seeing the Common Interest"—first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Text] The present dispute flared up at the recent session of the republic parliament during discussion of the Belorussian delegation's political line at the Moscow talks on the future Union treaty. What is worrying the people's deputies and the public, and what is Belorussia's position—this is the subject of a conversation with V. Sholodonov, leader of the delegation and deputy chairman of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR].

[Ulitenok] Vasiliy Ivanovich, are we talking about a new Union treaty or a renewed one?

[Sholodonov] To renew it, in practical terms, means to reconstruct the center and the vertical administrative structures of management and subordination that exist at present and have been found wanting. This can do no more than satisfy the inertia of yesterday's thinking. But society has gone through such serious changes in its democratic development that to perform some old political show as a new production will not work. Now that republics' sovereignty has become a reality and not just a declaration, the Union treaty can only be a new one.

[Ulitenok] And how did the other side—the incumbents of the Chamber of Facets [the Kremlin] react to this?

[Sholodonov] Initially, I think, the Union seriously considered how it could maintain its practical monopoly on a number of important state functions, and indeed material resources. But despite all the tension, the discussion was conducted without pressure and was notable for its mutual constructiveness.

This, I stress, is on a diplomatic level. But the practices that represent the center are distinct in their frank lack of compromise and their obstinate desire to preserve their dominant position, come what may. The USSR Council of Ministers, for example, sent us a draft resolution, during the days of the talks as it happens, on the creation of a state joint-stock company based on the Ministry of the Machine Tool and Tool Building Industry, in which a large part of the securities will belong to it. What kind of Belorussian sovereignty are we talking about? Or consider the following figures: The Union today owns almost two-thirds of the Belorussian SSR's production capital, and 60 percent of the profits earned by the

republic go "to the top"—and this is a clear distortion. It can be eliminated if we use as a basis the "zero option" of nationalized ownership proposed by our delegation: Everything that is on the territory of Union states should belong to those very states.

The center objects: "Let us count up all the debts. After all, the whole country built the Minsk tractor and automobile plants." We retorted: "And how much labor and capital did Belorussia put into the Baykal-Amur Railroad, into exploring the Virgin Lands, creating the Siberian oil and gas industries, and developing the Non-Chernozem Zone?" In general, horse-trading is out of place here. If anyone in the republic has serious complaints to make to us, then we should have talks. But without a third, "leading" side.

[Ulitenok] What still belongs directly to the Union?

[Sholodonov] Questions that individual republics cannot resolve. For example, space, and nuclear power. We are prepared to finance all-Union expenditure by transferring part of the republic budget to the Union budget in strictly fixed amounts, which will be determined on a multilateral, economic basis. Without any equally ill-conceived philanthropy or greed.

[Ulitenok] What is to be done about the problem of the country's defense and the idea of creating a national army, which was announced in the Declaration on the Republic's Sovereignty?

[Sholodonov] As far as the latter is concerned, it presupposes Belorussian SSR citizens' compulsory military service on the republic's territory, with a possible reduction in length of military service. But if, after that, a young man wants to stay in the army, he signs a contract with the country's Defense Ministry and thus becomes a professional. Then he will serve where it is deemed necessary to send him. At the same time, the Union's paid professional army which will be financed by the republics, will be monitored by local observers, so that the tragic experience of Afghanistan is not repeated.

[Ulitenok] Vasiliy Ivanovich, how do you—a lawyer by profession—view the concept of the Union's legislative initiative?

[Sholodonov] The center proposed that it should have the right to issue the fundamentals of legislation. We turned down this idea point-blank. The Belorussian delegation's position is as follows: Union laws are to be recognized as valid on the republic's territory only after they have been ratified by the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet.

[Ulitenok] What could deadlock the conclusion of the treaty?

[Sholodonov] A deadlock is not at all likely, but it is important for everyone to stop trying to pull the blanket just over themselves; we must be able to see and find common ground, establish the main interest, and seek a sense of community.

Mobile Dosimeters at Work in Belorussia

LD3008140590 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Mobile dosimetric laboratories of the Belorussian Red Cross Society are on the streets of Minsk. In the presence of visitors, specially trained physicians are analyzing foodstuffs. Such laboratories, which are equipped with instruments purchased with foreign currency and custom-made by the local Lenin Association, quickly determine the total content of radionuclides. The laboratories on wheels make checks at the request of the populace and enterprises. Under the flag of the Red Cross Society points of dosimetric control are being set up in other towns and villages of Belorussia.

Militiamen Observed for Effects From Chernobyl

LD3008140190 Minsk Domestic Service in Belorussian 0515 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] At present, there are nearly 17,000 militiamen under medical observation who did stints in the Chernobyl zone, including 1,000 who had to work in the affected area and received a radiation dose of 25 ber or more. Special burdens were placed on the shoulders of the personnel of the Ukraine and Belorussian Interior Ministries and of bordering oblasts of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic.

In the polyclinics run by the interior departments of the Gomel and Mogilev oblast soviets, teams are being organized to fully check those still living in the irradiated areas. A medical center of the USSR Interior Ministry is being set up in Kiev. All this is being done thanks to the redistribution of the means available.

Chernobyl AES Reactor Resumes Operation

LD3008111590 Kiev International Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] The third power unit at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant was put on line once again early this morning. What was the reason for its being switched off a few days ago? We turned to Vilen Semenyuk, an official of the republican Ministry of Power.

[Begin recording] [Semenyuk] According to our operational information—which is always at hand, for we continually watch performances of all power stations, including those working on nuclear fuel—a fuse blew in the control system of the power unit. This, as the protection scheme prescribes, led to the unit being switched off.

[Correspondent] Was there any direct danger for the manning personnel or for the environment?

[Semenyuk] None whatsoever. This was a routine stoppage, which occurs for various reasons. [end recording]

Rukh Members Disrupt Veterans Meeting

90UN2682A Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian
2 Aug 90 p 3

[Article by E. Grudzyna, former foreman at the Ternopol refrigerated car depot and veteran of labor and the party: "Why Did They Boo Us? From an Eyewitness"]

[Text] **As was already reported in yesterday's issue of PRAVDA UKRAINY, Rukh members in Ternopol broke up a rally organized by veterans of the Great Patriotic War, the party, and labor. One of the participants in the interrupted rally came to our correspondence point....**

The rally's slogan was as peaceful as could be: "We reinforce the declaration of the sovereignty of the Ukraine with humane actions!" Attached to the columns of the theater building, it could be seen from afar and understood by everyone. Before the rally began, songs wafted through the square—a folk song from the words of Ivan Franko, lyrical ones in which one could hear the verses of Dmitr Pavlychko and the music of Aleksandr Bilash, and also songs by local writers. They were sung by a female choir of veterans of Ternopol who recently enjoyed success performing in the cities and villages of Volyna. It seemed that everything was right for the people to have a sincere dialogue. We had gathered peacefully to discuss our actions and decisions, to think together about whether they fit into the civilized world of democracy and a rule-of-law state....

Suddenly a furious whistle of a band of brigands and shouts drowned out the song. The square was filled with more and more people blatantly shouting in the rudest street language. The uninvited guests lifted up placards containing the same abusive language against the party, Lenin, and veterans. Next to the blue and yellow flags which are "legitimate" in the city there was the sinister red and black Association of Ukrainian Nationalists [OUN] standard (as we know, this flag has little to do with parliamentary struggle). The square was diabolically raging—whistles, tramping, clatter. That is probably what it sounded like in Jerusalem when they demanded that Christ be crucified. That is probably what it was like in Germany at the beginning of the thirties before Hitler came to power.

The chairman of the city Veterans Council, I.A. Komarov, a frontline soldier and scout, appealed to his comrades to keep the peace and not to respond to the provocation. But then, convinced that the Rukh members would not allow the rally to continue, he suggested that the veterans gathered there immediately go and place flowers on the monuments to K. Marx, G.G. Shevchenko, and V.I. Lenin. Above the noise, true, he did manage to say also why the rally had been held. And it was brought about by the incorrect, not to say barbarous, decision of the city soviet to take down a number of monuments in Ternopol, including those to Marx and Lenin, and signs honoring the soldiers who liberated the city from the fascist occupiers.

The crowd of rogues organized especially to break up the rally could not be dispelled by I.G. Cherednichenko, a frontline soldier who fought to free Ternopol, who with the help of the microphone tried to draw attention to the fact that at 70 years old he could be the father or grandfather of many of those who were doing the shouting; nor by the chairman of the city soviet, V.A. Negod, who called in vain for order, emphasizing that the rally was sanctioned....

Democracy gave way to outright extremism, which essentially silenced us. It seemed that the forces that had been defeated in 1945 and subsequent battles against Bandera gangs had decided to take their revenge.

After most of the veterans had left, the entry to the theater was filled with people shouting and crowding us. A red and black OUN flag was raised on the approach to the theater entrance....

I decided not to leave the rally but to stay here and say what I had come to say to the people. I managed to do this, even if it was over the disapproving roar of the crowd.

Just think about who it was they were raising their hand against—Lenin, who gave the people the slogans: "Peace—to the peoples"; "The land—to the peasants"; "The plants and factories—to the workers!" At that time too they started out with many parties and each of them claimed to be speaking on behalf of the people. But the people ended up following the Bolsheviks and Lenin. And it is not his fault that during the period of Stalinism these slogans were essentially crossed out. I said that the only thing he was to blame for was that he did not live long enough, and then he could have done even more for the good of the people.

I would like to convey these thoughts to everyone who stood in this far-from-friendly crowd. What were they doing there? They drowned us out and interrupted us. They placed great value on ferocious anticommunist labels borrowed from the fascists: "Red plague"; "Go back to your commune"; "The commune is sticking its filthy nose everywhere"; "Lenin means a thirst for power and violence".... Under approving howls they made a blasphemous suggestion to "Tie a noose around the stone idol"—that is, to the monument to Lenin—"and drag it through Lenin street to the dump." It was as though the speakers were competing in this iconoclastic vandalism.

"Their impudence went so far as to invoke our poet Taras Shevchenko," howled one of these "tribunes." This was concerning the veterans' decision to place flowers at the foot of the monument to the great Kobza Player. And yet he, with his great lines condemning the Union, if he were alive, would probably be included among the "Muscovites."

Only rarely did the truth break through about how at one time here, secretly, by a flickering oil lamp, they read "The Kobza Player." One could also have added: Not

only "The Kobza Player"—even to read "The Lord's Prayer" in the Ukrainian language in your own hut under the Polish gentry it was practically necessary to hide under a blanket so that nobody would hear you and take you away.

But these were different motives; they demanded that Communists turn in their party cards.... Incidentally, a threatening group surrounded me (just as they sometimes surround the podium of the republic Supreme Soviet) after my speech at the rally: They told me to turn in my party card. I looked around and asked:

"Are there no women around? I am not a prostitute."

There was not a single CPSU member here at the rally who would give up his party affiliation. Anyone who would, who was so concerned about his own personal interests, had done so earlier.

And my comrades who had come to lay flowers on the monuments told how touching this presentation was, how they sang the "International," and cried in front of the monument to Ilich, the foot of which was flooded with carnations and flaming gladioli.

Why did they boo us, why did they insult the veterans? Do the people who did this not want humane, civilized demonstrations in support of the republic's sovereignty?

Caucasus

Armenian State of Emergency Continues, Area Calm

More on Disbanding of ANA

PM3008150690 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Report by V. Nazaryan and R. Khachatryan from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Announcer] By a majority of votes, with no votes against and two abstentions, the parliament adopted a decision on imposing a state of emergency throughout the republic. A curfew was also announced, from 2200 to 0600 hours. Under the resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian republic, the Armenian National Army paramilitary organization is declared disbanded.

[Video shows street scenes with armed men in stationary and moving armored vehicles] All militants are instructed to hand over by 2200 hours today their weapons, ammunition, occupied buildings, and stolen equipment and motor vehicles. The fulfillment of the resolution on imposing the state of emergency is entrusted to the republic Ministry of Internal Affairs and the subunits of Internal Troops under its jurisdiction, the Armenian KGB, and also the recently formed detachments for the protection of public order, which form part of the militia structure.

Military Officials on Situation

PM3008171990 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Aug 90 First Edition p 1

[Report by unnamed correspondent under the rubric "Armenia Situation": "Will Guerrillas Give Up Without a Fight?"—first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] It was impossible to phone Yerevan 29 August—the lines were down. But yesterday our correspondent managed to get through. Here is what we learned.

USSR People's Deputy Major General M. Surkov, chief of the Yerevan Garrison Political Department:

At 0200 hours last night, the Armenian National Army [ANA] headquarters in apartment block No. 10, Alaberdyan Street, Yerevan ceased to exist. Around 200 guerrillas surrendered along with their weapons. The operation was conducted by forces from the militia, the Armenian Ministry of Internal Affairs Internal Troops, and public order detachments, as they are known here. This was preceded by long talks in which Armenian people's deputies took part.

[Correspondent] Did they give up without a fight, without casualties?

[Surkov] Yes, there was no shooting. Razmik Vasilyan, commander of the ANA troops, and Vardan Vardanyan, chairman of the ANA Military Council, were arrested. Weapons were handed in, but they were mainly old types (in this respect the ANA did not fulfill the conditions of the agreement).

Following the liberation of the building our military engineers and chemical troops discovered more than 700 kg of ammonite there along with more than 1,000 electric blasting caps, around 300 meters of detonating cords and safety fuses, a large number of primed homemade grenades and Maxim guns, a large number of rounds and mines, more than 45 Molotov cocktails, and other types of weapons.

Moreover, seven guerrillas were arrested yesterday in Mashgara[illegible]d in Zhirmuk Village two ANA members handed over five mines, as many grenades, one hail gun, and 75 shells to go with it. This work is being stepped up today with joint efforts.

[Correspondent] Mikhail Semenovich, we know that you have just returned from a session at the state of emergency headquarters.

[Surkov] Yes. Today all local newspapers published the Armenian parliament's resolution on the imposition of a state of emergency over all the republic's territory. At the headquarters session—headed by Vazgen Manukyan, chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers—we discussed the events of the previous night and concluded

that the results of our work had been good since there were no casualties. We agreed on further action to disarm the guerrillas.

Last night I toured the city after midnight and, to my surprise, saw no groups of cars or people and heard no shooting. The night was very quiet. That is, a curfew is in force.

[Correspondent] Tell me, have there been any attacks on military installations or servicemen over the past 24 hours?

[Surkov] I have received no reports to that effect as yet. [Surkov ends]

Colonel A. Sarkisov, administration chief at the Armenian Ministry of Internal Affairs, told us:

The republic Supreme Soviet session begins at 1100 hours. A government statement will be issued and I would not want to anticipate events. You will learn everything from that statement.

[Correspondent] At any rate, just what is the operational situation in Yerevan and the republic at the moment?

[Sarkisov] The situation is entirely under the control of the militia forces and those people's voluntary militia forces that have taken an oath of allegiance to parliament—if I can put it that way. [passage omitted]

Yerevan Roadblocks in Place

LD3008140790 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] A TASS correspondent was told by an official of the special squad of Internal Troops of the USSR Ministry of Defense that units of troops, together with the republic's internal affairs officials, are blocking roads leading to Yerevan from five rayons—Abovyan, Echmiadzin, Ashtarak, (Seritashenskiy), and Artashat. Their task is to halt Armenian National Army [ANA] armed formations infiltrating the capital of the republic. By a decision of the Armenian government, and in accordance with the USSR law on duties and rights of Internal Troops of the USSR Ministry of Defense, personnel of the Internal Troops may use weapons in the event of resistance or to maintain public order.

ANA Leaders Issue Statement

LD3008135790 Moscow TASS in English 1344 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By ARMENPRESS-TASS correspondent Gagik Melkumyan]

[Text] Yerevan, August 30 TASS—Leaders of the Armenian National Army (ANA), Razmik Vasilyan and Vardan Vardanyan, announced on television today that its Military Council has decided to disband the organisation. They urged all members of its armed groups to comply with the relevant resolution of the republican parliament.

They said that all ANA members who wish to join new military structures subordinate to the Armenian government and parliament will be able to do so, provided they have the necessary moral and other qualities.

Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan announced early today that the ANA leaders were going to make this statement. As was already announced the headquarters of the Armenian National Army in central Yerevan were closed today. ANA groups across Armenia are now disbanding themselves. The situation in the republic is returning to normal.

Situation Seen 'Under Control'

LD3108100190 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 31 Aug 90

[Text] Armenia's Interior Ministry reports that the situation in Yerevan and in the republic on the whole has remained calm in the last 24 hours. Measures aimed at the confiscation of arms, ammunition, motor vehicles, and other property from illegal armed groups are continuing. So, in Ashtarakskiy Rayon an antiaircraft gun, 20 shells, and two cars were confiscated from the Armenian National Army [ANA] headquarters. An ANA group in Artikskiy Rayon, which consisted of 25 people, declared their own dissolution and expressed the desire to help militia bodies in the protection of public order. In Sevanskiy Rayon, the (Ashot Yerkat) armed group voluntarily surrended six submachine guns and other weapons, as well as ammunition and military clothing. This group also declared its own dissolution. In Shamshadinskiy Rayon, a combat group numbering 12 people has been disarmed. Rifles, hunting rifles, cartridges, two mortar mines and an Ural automobile were seized. The situation is under control.

Quiet After 'Surrender'

PM3008150790 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Aug 90 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by I. Andreyev under the general heading: "Yerevan: Night Has Passed Without Shooting"]

[Text] Lieutenant General B. Smyslov, deputy commander of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] internal forces, describes to IZVESTIYA the details of last night's events.

[Andreyev] Early this morning, Boris Karlovich, the editorial office received a report from the INTERFAX agency which said that last night the headquarters staff of the Armenian National Army [ANA] numbering around 250 men voluntarily handed in their weapons and surrendered. How did this happen?

[Smyslov] The talks with the ANA staff essentially lasted all of 29 August, and part of the morning of 30 August. They were conducted by representatives of the Armenian MVD in a tough, uncompromising form. Militia subunits, reinforced by a number of armored personnel carriers, surrounded and cordoned off the ANA headquarters. At one period in the talks even the storming of the building was not ruled out. Fortunately that extreme measure proved unnecessary and the more than 200 men in the headquarters were detained.

Now, as Yerevan has told me, their representatives have been taken to the republic's Council of Ministers where they are negotiating terms for being relieved of responsibility for their actions in the past few days, including shooting at and killing members of parliament from the Armenian Pan-national Movement yesterday—which they attributed to patriotic motives.

Reports from rayons in Armenia, Lt. Gen. Smyslov said in conclusion, make no mention of any serious incidents. In Masisskiy Rayon a group of armed people of unknown identity tried unsuccessfully to occupy the local militia department but were driven back.

I want to make it cleary that the curfew from 2200 through 0600 hours applies only in Yerevan.

Armenian Premier on Situation, Union Treaty

AU3008172890 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 28 Aug 90 p 3

[Interview with Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, by Michail Sokolow "before the renewed outbreak of armed conflicts in the Armenian-Azerbaijani border area"; place and date not given: "Armenia Is Always Ready for Negotiations"]

[Text] [Sokolow] Has Moscow apologized to you for putting you into prison for six months [in December 1988]?

[Ter-Petrosyan] Interior Minister Bakatin said that "mistakes were made." I am not for basing state political relations on personal insult. All talks were a dialogue between equal partners.

[Sokolow] What were the results?

[Ter-Petrosyan] I said that it is not my duty to pay for the sins of the former leadership which drove Armenia into its current situation. The central authority noted my standpoint with understanding. Interior Minister Bakatin asked the president to postpone the fulfillment of the decree on disarmament. We receive a certain period to solve the problem of disarmament ourselves, together with the Interior Ministry and the KGB of our republic

[Sokolow] But recently there were still tanks in the streets of Yerevan!

[Ter-Petrosyan] The army displayed certain activities. But before the negotiations in Moscow, I asked General Surkov to withdraw the technical equipment from the streets, which he did.

[Sokolow] Do the volunteer units subject themselves to your command?

[Ter-Petrosyan] The leadership of the units assured me that units of the Armenian National Army will fulfill the will of the parliament. But we still have to negotiate with them.

[Sokolow] How large are these units?

[Ter-Petrosyan] Figures ranging from 40,000 to 140,000 have been given. This is exaggerated, which is also admitted by the KGB and by the Interior Ministry, even though they do not deny these figures. In reality, there are no more than 5,000 volunteers in arms.

[Sokolow] How do you envisage the legal Armenian Army?

[Ter-Petrosyan] Like others, we are in favor of having the citizens of the republic serve on their territory. Our parliament has adopted such a resolution.

[Sokolow] What will happen to the KGB in Armenia?

[Ter-Petrosyan] Kryuchkov agreed with me that the Armenian KGB will not hide any secrets from us, which concern the republic.

[Sokolow] What is the working program of the Armenian parliament like?

[Ter-Petrosyan] Armenia is not an isolated country. It belongs to the historically developed federation. Logically, in Armenia the same processes are underway as in the other republics. First, sovereignty has to be extended, and second, a profound democratization is necessary. We also have our specific problems: Karabakh, the disaster zone. However, we will not achieve anything if the situation is not stabilized. This is the main task of the new leadership of the republic.

[Sokolow] Who is in opposition to you?

[Ter-Petrosyan] The Communist Party of Armenia is still strong, in particular in the power apparatus. But following the election defeat, it is demoralized. If it does not renew itself, it cannot compete with the Armenian national movement.

[Sokolow] Does the complicated geopolitical situation of Armenia not bother you?

[Ter-Petrosyan] In Armenia, the insight is now gaining ground that we can live in normal, good relations with all neighboring countries—Georgia, Iran, Turkey, and Azerbaijan.

[Sokolow] Are you ready for dialogue with Azerbaijan, or will you wait for the results of the elections in the neighboring republic? What could be the basis of a compromise?

[Ter-Petrosyan] We are always ready for negotiations and we could start immediately. The first step, which would satisfy both sides, would be the reestablishment of Soviet power in Nagorno-Karabakh and the investiture of the local soviet in its rights. This place is still an occupied land where the army rules.

[Sokolow] What do you think of the Union treaty?

[Ter-Petrosyan] I do not know its versions and therefore I have a conceptual approach: The Union will become a community of states and there will be only one legislation, that of the republic and not that of the Union. The Union treaty can only have a coordinating function.

Debate Dispute Begins Over Ownership of Papers

NC2908164490 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Excerpts] The first session of the first convocation of the Supreme Soviet of the Armenian Republic continued its deliberations this morning. [passage omitted]

The meeting extensively debated the reasons for and motives behind the changes in the names of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN and KOMMUNIST newspapers. We bring to your attention parts of some of the speeches made by the deputies.

Kamo Vardanyan, editor of YEREKOYAN YEREVAN, spoke about the claim that ostensibly all the publications and printing houses belong to the Communist Party Central Committee and that the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers have no share in them. [passage omitted]

Robert Aleksanyan, first secretary of Gorisskiy Rayon party committee, said:

[Begin Aleksanyan recording] Speaking in the name of a group of Communist deputies I want to make the following statement: We condemn the decision of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau for unilaterally declaring the former KOMMUNIST and KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN newspapers to be the organs of the Armenian Communist Party. Such a decision could only be taken at the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee plenum which took place a few days ago and this issue was not discussed there. We also believe that the consent of the members of the Central Committee also should have been taken. [passage indistinct] We condemn this move and believe that it would have been better if the three concerned parties met around a table and agreed upon moves on these issue. On many occasions we have declared from these platforms and from other podiums that we must unite and bring together the forces of the entire Armenian nation and wage a struggle for a common goal—strengthening the Armenian republic and the future wellbeing of the Armenian people. Sadly enough, these have only remained mere words uttered in an empty desert. [end Aleksanyan recording] [passage omitted]

This issue was debated during the evening session as well. The deputies put forward numerous contradictory proposals. At the last evening session, Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian republic's Supreme Soviet, summarized the proposals put forward. He pointed out that in fact it had been illegal to change the status and names of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN and KOMMUNIST papers. However, that does not give us the right to act in a similar manner which might create an unsavory atmosphere in the republic and destabilize the situation. We have no right to trample upon the law. That is why, taking into consideration the essence of the proposals put forward, I think that it would be correct to endorse the proposal of deputy Vano Siradegyan to establish a separate official organ of the Supreme Soviet with its own independent financial-technical and printing means.

This proposal was passed with a majority vote.

In order to quickly resolve this issue, the session undertook to set up a standing commission dealing with press affairs. It decided to include seven deputies in that commission. Today, only five candidates willing to work in this commission were elected to the commission. Kamo Vardanyan, editor of YEREKOYAN YEREVAN, and Rubik Akobyan, a worker at the state committee for television and radio, failed to obtain enough votes and could not enter the commission.

Babken Ararktsyan, first deputy chairman of the Armenian republic's Supreme Soviet, briefed the session about the situation prevailing in the Shaumyanovskiy Rayon of Azerbaijan. He said that according to the most recent information, the people there are not submitting to the organizational committee, which has come from Baku, and are refusing to implement its decisions. The army which came in with the so-called new adminstrators withdrew after facing popular disobedience. However, the situation has not been exacerbated.

The first session of the first convocation of the Armenian republic's Supreme Soviet will continue its deliberations tomorrow.

Armenian Deputies View Independence Declaration

NC2808145690 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Yerevan, 27 Aug (ARMENPRES)—During the 24 August morning session of the first meeting of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, the people's deputies again discussed the declaration "On the Independence of Armenia" because the relevant commission had been able to quickly complete the final corrections and partial editorial improvements to the declaration. The Supreme Soviet then voted on the declaration with 192 in favor

and two abstentions. People's Deputy Aram Manukyan—namesake of the founder of the first independent republic of Armenia [in 1918]—read out the final text of the declaration of independence of Armenia.

This historic act, the adoption of the decalaration of independence of Armenia, received a long standing ovation from those attending the session. [passage omitted]

Trade Unions Council, Balayan Make Appeals

NC2908181890 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1500 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] The Armenian republican Trade Unions Council has made the following appeal to the workers of Armenia: Compatriots, there are forces within and without the republic who, through their provocative actions, are opposing the national parliament and government and are trying to destabilize the situation and upset the course of restructuring.

In this complex and grave time for the republic, the Armenian trade unions call on the entire population to display restraint and prudence and give its support to the parliament and work actively to extricate Armenia from the prevailing situation. A nation which has experienced a genocide and a people who have struggled for independence for centuries have no right to err. We trust in our people.

[Signed] Armenian Republican Trade Unions Council

Zori Balayan, people's deputy from Nagorno-Karabakh, has made the following appeal: Compatriots, the hour of trial of the wisdom accumulated by our people over centuries has arrived. Yes, like historical experience, wisdom too is subjected to trial. If today (?the war) gains the upper hand, then it means we have so far engaged in self-delusion and have never been wise. However, I cannot bring myself to believe in that [words indistinct]. The saddest thing is that we ourselves could turn this most happy hour for our people into an hour of tragedy. We already know how a civil war waged on the basis of so-called ideologies ended for our people 70 years ago. At the time we lost all that we had gained. If now after 70 years we repeat that fateful mistake, then this mistake will be the last one. Today each bullet fired in Armenia strikes the Armenian (?child); every single shot fired in Armenia certainly ricochets to besieged and blockaded Karabakh which has nobody else but the [word indistinct] wisdom of the Armenian people. An internal clash, or even the thought of it, is first of all a blow to the Karabakh problem. In the name of Karabakh, Shaumyanovskiy, and Getashen—which today are in a tragic situation of civil disobedience—I call on you to respect the victims of Sumagit and Baku, the victims of Spitak and Leninakan. Think about the fatherland, [word indistinct] and Karabakh. Think about the Armenian mothers who trust you [words indistinct].

Monuments to Former Leaders To Be Relocated

NC2808113290 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 27 Aug 90

[Text] Yerevan 27 Aug (ARMENPRES)—A number of artistically valuable monuments erected in Yerevan to sociopolitical activists of the despotic period along with other valuable objects connected with historical reminiscences will be removed to a specific location in the city to ensure their protection.

This decision was made by the Yerevan City Soviet Executive Committee because the sentiments developing during the restructuring and popular movement and the self-motivated acts by certain individuals pose a serious threat to the monuments' preservation.

The relevant city organizations have been instructed to study and make proposals concerning the allocation of a specific site for these monuments and the naming of the site.

Yerevan Criticizes Daily Newspaper on Format

NC2708105390 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 26 Aug 90

[From the "republican press review"]

[Excerpt] Dear compatriots, we will devote today's press review entirely to the KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN daily.

As you may have already noticed, dear compatriots, that paper has not changed its format. What's more, on its masthead it is written that it is the organ of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee and of the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic. As you may recall, two days ago the Armenian parliament decided to change the name of the republic to the Armenian Republic, or Armenia for short. The decision took effect from the moment of its endorsement. However, Deputy Shdzors Davityan, the editor of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN, is not showing any haste to comply with that decision. However, in all fairness, we should mention that the slogan 'Workers of the world unite!' has been deleted from the masthead.

Today's issue of the paper has a pronounced antiparliament slant. For example, the paper has published the statement of the military council of the Armenian National Army. The statement was brought to the editorial office of the paper by the representative of the military council who, after making a reference to Article 9 of the declaration of independence of Armenia, demanded that it be published. The statement says: The maintenance of public order in the republic is becoming increasingly unmanageable and [words indistinct]. At a time when the special detachments of the Armenian National Army are risking their lives and undertaking many preventive operations, the Armenian National Army is being castigated in the official and informal

press, from high podiums, at rallies, and at kitchen tables. The authors of the statement wonder what is the purpose of such slanders and answer their own question thus: To drive a wedge between the Armenian National Army and people in need of organized self-defense. The Kremlin despots not only foment instability, but also entertain the hope of reviving one-party tyranny in Armenia by surrounding the neophyte government with militia, territorial units, and a hastily formed national guard. The only way out of the crisis is to incorporate all patriotic armed forces into the Armenian National Army following the recent example of the Armenian Cause [Hay Dat] organization.

The so-called hastly formed national guard mentioned in the statement of the Armenian National Army is being [words indistinct] with great enthusiasm these days following a call in this direction by the Armenian Supreme Soviet. Healthy forces which hold the fatherland's independence and domestic stability above everything else are enlisting in these subunits. The Armenian National Army did not respond to the call of the parliament to join forces under the aegis of the state. Rather, as you see, it adopted a policy of separatism and antagonism.

The statement referred to the Armenian Cause organization, which recently announced that the military equipment in the hands of its own armed organizations and groupings had been handed over to the Armenian National Army. In a statement, the Armenian Cause stressed that the organization's council of representatives decided to do this as it considers that the Armenian National Army is the nucleus of the future legal national army of Armenia.

By publishing the statements of the Armenian National Army and Armenian Cause in today's issue, KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN is in fact encouraging their anti-state stance. Some may claim that there is nothing wrong with publishing such statements under conditions of pluralism. However, such a thing in no way helps the consolidation of our young statehood. It also reflects the clumsiness of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN in view of the fact that the statement of Armenian Cause was made on 4 August and had already been reported by some periodicals, whereas the paper in question had lain in wait for the right moment and only brought it to its readers' attention today.

The paper has also published a report about the deliberations of the Supreme Soviet. It highly assessed the work of Deputies Grigor Avakyan and Hamlet Nahatakyan. It has also published the following opinion of Rafayel Ambardzumyan, leader of the National Unity Covenenat [Azgayin Miasnutyan Ukht] who is not a deputy: Although our declaration is called declaration of independence, in fact it is not independence; it is not a characteristically national independence. Rather, like the USSR Constitution and criminal code, it is the Armenian version of a master copy written in Moscow. [passage omitted]

Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet on Armenian Extremists

LD3008210290 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] A decision on the actions of Armenian extremists on the border with Azerbaijan has been adopted at the session of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet. Our correspondent Islam Kuliyev reports:

[Kuliyev] The latest data were given on the concentration of illegal armed formations of Armenian armed militants on the border and on firing positions detected by Interior [Ministry] troops using air and ground reconnaissance, where the artillery and rocket launching units of the armed militants were installed. The deputies also paid attention to the following indicative point: On the eve of large-scale combat activities the Armenian extremists always move the local population deeper into their territory. Similar actions are being observed now.

The concern of those speaking and the legitimate indignation of the Azerbaijani people, including its non-Azerbaijani part—all those were reflected in the adopted decision. In particular, it demands that an end should be put to the undeclared war, about the need for the center to observe its own and union obligations for defending the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the republic.

The session has adopted one more decision on measures for ensuring the safety and territorial integrity of the Nakhichevan Autonomous SSR and on liberating the territories of (Charkhinskiy) rural soviet that was illegally occupied by Armenia. Naturally, it is difficult to restrain emotions and to analyze events in a considerate and adequate fashion. Emotions were going over the top at the session. There were demands to form their own self-defense detachments. Some people spoke in favor of the republic's secession from the Union. However, to the credit of the parliament these moods did not prevail over the sober evaluation of the situation. Reports on the introduction of a state of emergency in Armenia, which were made at the session, cooled down the hot-heads to some extent.

Russians in Azerbaijan Criticize Armenians

NC3008162090 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1730 GMT 29 Aug 90

[Text] A group of representatives of the Russian-speaking people of Azerbaijan have sent an appeal to the parliament of the Russian Federation, a copy of which was also sent to SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. The appeal states:

The nationalists in Armenia and their ideological supporters in foreign countries have been trying to direct their efforts toward encouraging Armenians to maintain a national spirit of no compromise and to pursue the ridiculous idea of establishing a greater Armenia. Toward this end, for the past two years they have been

making completely unjustified claims to the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, land which has belonged to Azerbaijan for centuries.

Because of the [word indistinct] of the central government organs, a state of lawlessness, as represented by the establishment of the National Army by armed Armenian terrorists, has been allowed to prevail. These terrorists launch continuous armed attacks against peaceful border towns and Azerbaijani women, old people, and children. In addition to the Azerbaijani people, this savagery is also directed against the Russian people, who have lived beside the Azerbaijanis in friendship and good-neighborliness for centuries.

The extension of the deadline of the presidential decree on the disbanding of illegal armed groups has made the Armenian extremists more daring. In fact, their attacks have entered a new stage. Peaceful residents of border towns and the Russian troops who guard these towns have been selected as targets once again.

The appeals continues: We, the Russians, while struggling together with the Azerbaijanis and the representatives of other peoples in our multinational homeland for truth, justice, and the restoration of law and order, appeal to our historic homeland, mother Russia, to support Azerbaijan. Help us protest ourselves, our children, and our land from the rapacious [word indistinct] of the Armenian aggressor. Support Azerbaijan during these difficult days in its hard but just struggle.

Party Removes Azerbaijan Border District Chief

LD3008172990 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Text] Baku, Azerbaijan, August 30 AZERINFORM-TASS—A Communist Party chief has been removed from his post and expelled from the party by the Bureau of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee.

Vladimir Agadzhanyan, head of the party organisation in Azerbaijan's Shaumyan district bordering on Armenia, was accused of "grossly violating party discipline, ignoring Central Committee decisions and assuming positions of nationalism and separatism."

The Central Committee further indicated its displeasure by disbanding the entire Shaumyan regional party committee.

The Central Committee said in a statement that Azerbaijanis were denied jobs in the district's administrative center.

"Nationalist psychosis was whipped up" in the district, the statement says. "The leaders in the district, which is populated largely by Armenians, sought to separate it from Azerbaijan economically and ideologically."

A temporary organisational bureau has been set up in Shaumyan District to run political, economic and social life there, to prepare a party conference in the region and organise elections to the Azerbaijani parliament and local councils.

The Central Committee called on communists, veterans and "all sound forces in the district" to regard its decision "with understanding," explaining that it was prompted by a desire to "normalise the situation, restore good-neighbourly relations between Azerbaijanis and Armenians and put an end to actions by those who have slid into the mire of nationalism, nepotism and organised crime."

Azerbaijan's Shaumyanovskiy Party Leader Removed

NC3008113190 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 28 Aug 90

[Excerpt] We have just received a report which says that Azerbaijan's Communist Party Central Committee Bureau has decided to suspend the activities of the party bureau and plenum of Shaumyanovskiy Rayon in Azerbaijan and to disband them.

The decision states that Vladimir Agadzhanyan, first secretary of Shaumyanovskiy Rayon party committee, has been relieved of his post and expelled from the party for blatant violation of party discipline, disregard of the decisions of the Azerbaijan's Communist Party Central Committee, and for openly holding nationalistic and separatist positions.

An interim organizational bureau for Shaumyanovskiy Rayon has been formed for the daily administration of the social and political life of the rayon, for the organization of a party conference dealing with the elections in the rayon, and for the organization of the elections of people's deputies to the Supreme Soviet and local soviets. [passage omitted]

Lenin Monument Dismantled in Tbilisi 28 Aug

LD2908165890 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 29 Aug 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A monument to Lenin was destroyed in the Georgian capital at 0300 yesterday. According to witnesses, some 3,000 people were present when the monument was dismantled in Lenin Square. The monument was knocked to the ground by heavy-duty cranes. Representatives of the League of Georgian Citizens and supporters of the roundtable political bloc took part in demolishing the monument. No organization, however, has yet claimed responsibility for the action. The militia, who had been guarding the monument until recently, did not interfere.

Central Asia

Solar-Power Radio Link Opens in Kazakhstan

LD3008102490 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 30 Aug 90

[Summary] A solar-powered rural radio relay link of 130 kilometers has started carrying programs to remote villages in Dzhezkazgan Oblast in Kazakhstan.

Kirghiz Party Congress Resumes Work 30 Aug

Program of 'Action' Debated

LD3008144690 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 30 Aug 90

[By TASS correspondent Boris Mainayev]

[Text] Frunze August 30 TASS—The second stage of the 19th Kirghiz Communist Party Congress was held here today. The congress, which began its work on June 14, suspended its proceedings because of the 28th Soviet Communist Party Congress.

Delegates, representing 150,000 Kirghiz Communists, focused on two issues: the Kirghiz Communist' programme of action in the present situation and its status.

Party chief A.M. Masaliyev delivered a report at the forum.

Delegates adopted the programme of action and the status of the republican Communist Party. From now on, it is an independent political organisation, uniting on a voluntary basis citizens of Kirghizia and the USSR to implement goals based on human values and the communist ideal.

In handling issues of state construction, socio-economic and cultural development, the republic combines the interests of the CPSU and the interests of the Kirghiz Communist Party and the Kirghiz Republic.

The state of emergency has been in force in Frunze since June 7. Its imposition was provoked by ethnic clashes in the Osh region of the republic. After the situation was stabilised, the curfew was reduced to five hours. The situation in Osh is now calm.

The Kirghiz Communist Party is now going through hard times. Its state is reflected in a sociological study conducted by the Frunze party organisation.

Slightly more than 35,000 people are Communist Party members in Frunze with a population of 600,000. They represents 65 ethnic groups. Their average age is 47.

A total of 750 people joined the Communist Party as alternative members in 1989, which is a somewhat larger number than in 1989. But the flow of workers into the party continues to dwindle. In 1989, workers made up 50.4 per cent of the republic's Communists, 8.5 per cent down on the 1988 figure.

A total of 638 people were expelled from the party in 1989, which is twice as many as in 1988. More and more Communists are voluntarily handing in their party cards. All in all, 322 people turned in their membership cards. About 60 per cent of them were workers, 34.5 per cent pensioners and the rest intellectuals.

Congress Ends Work

LD3008212590 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 30 Aug 90

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The second stage of the 19th congress of the Communist Party of Kirghizia took place in Frunze today.

[Correspondent K. Sultanbekov] In connection with the fact that the first stage of the congress of the republican party organization took place before the 28th CPSU Congress, it was decided to rework the draft status and draft action program, taking account of the results of the CPSU congress. And today the 19th congress of the Communist Party of Kirghizia continued its work, and these two questions were the basis of its work.

A report was delivered by Masaliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kirghizia. In attributing fundamental importance to the processes of renewal and perestroyka and of heading the practical work to eliminate the deformations that had been allowed to occur in all spheres of life, the Communist Party of Kirghizia expresses serious concern at the internal political situation which has arisen in the country and in the republic, and to the crisis phenomena in the economy, the congress program document says.

After a businesslike discussion with differing assessments, both the action program and the document on the status of the Communist Party were adopted by a majority of votes.

The delegates of the 19th congress of the Communist Party of Kirghizia adopted a message to all the Communists of the republic. With this the 19th congress of the Communist Party of Kirghizia ended its work.